URL sulla cui pagina effetuato il copiaincolla: https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/mike-bloomberg-raises-16-million-to-allow-former-felons-to-vote-in-florida/2020/09/21/6dda787e-fc5a-11ea-8d05-9beaaa91c71f_story.html , Wayback Machine: https://web.archive.org/web/20210202172903/https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/mike-bloomberg-raises-16-million-to-allow-former-felons-to-vote-in-florida/2020/09/21/6dda787e-fc5a-11ea-8d05-9beaaa91c71f_story.html; data dell'effettuazione del copiaincolla: 2 febbraio 2021

Mike Bloomberg raises $16 million to allow former felons to vote in Florida

Mike Bloomberg speaks in Palm Beach, Fla., on March 3. (Toni L. Sandys/The Washington Post)

By

Michael Scherer

September 22, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. GMT+2

Former New York mayor Mike Bloomberg and his team have raised more than $16 million to pay the court fines and fees of nearly 32,000 Black and Hispanic Florida voters with felony convictions, an effort aimed at boosting turnout for Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden.

The money will fund a program organized by the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition to pay the fines, fees and restitution costs for former prisoners who are already registered to vote in Florida but barred by law from participating in the election because of those outstanding debts.

Bloomberg, who has committed at least $100 million to electing Biden in the state, raised the money from individuals and foundations over the past week, his advisers said. He saw the donations as a more cost-effective way of adding votes to the Democratic column than investing money to persuade voters who already have the right to vote, a Bloomberg memo said.

AD

"We have identified a significant vote share that requires a nominal investment," the memo read. "The data shows that in Florida, Black voters are a unique universe unlike any other voting bloc, where the Democratic support rate tends to be 90%-95%."

The memo noted that Biden was polling worse among Cuban American voters than Hillary Clinton, the 2016 nominee, while winning other Hispanic groups by a margin of 3 to 1.

The Florida Rights Restoration Coalition is a nonpartisan group that has been fundraising to return all former felons in the state to the voting rolls. Desmond Meade, the group's president, said the group does not share Bloomberg's goal of empowering only one political side in the upcoming election.

"Different people may give for different reasons, but we are in this for one reason, and that reason is to place people over politics," Meade said. "We are concerned with people from all walks of life, from all sorts of politics."

AD

He said that through separate efforts, his organization has raised about $7 million from about 44,000 donors to help pay the debts of citizens with felony convictions so they can return to the voting rolls. The average debt, the group said, is about $1,000.
After organizing by Meade's group, Florida voters passed a statewide constitutional amendment in 2018 that gave former felons, except those convicted of murder or felony sexual offenses, the opportunity to vote in upcoming elections. The Republican-controlled legislature subsequently passed, and the Republican governor signed, a law that conditioned their return to the voting rolls on the payment of all fees, fines and restitution that were part of their sentence.
Subsequent court challenges upheld the power of the legislature to condition voting rights on the payment of debts by former felons. Judge Barbara Lagoa, who is under consideration by President Trump as a possible replacement for Supreme Court justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, cast a concurring opinion on the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals upholding the state law requiring payment of debts.
AD

The Republican effort is expected to limit what some viewed as a political benefit to Democrats of the constitutional change, which passed by ballot initiative with 65 percent support. A study by the University of Florida found that nearly 775,000 former felons still owed money related to their convictions and would be barred from the voting booth by the law. The vast majority are too poor to pay their outstanding debts, according to evidence presented in court documents challenging the law.
Several philanthropic groups, including a nonprofit founded by the professional basketball player LeBron James, have since committed donations to pay the owed money. The Bloomberg effort, which his aides said will be pooled with about $5 million already raised by the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition, is narrowly focused only on Black and Hispanic voters who are already registered to vote and whose debts are less than $1,500.
Bloomberg's advisers identified that group as both likely to vote for Biden and more likely to vote than other groups of former felons.
AD

"Mike wanted to get this done for two reasons," said a Bloomberg adviser, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss private conversations. "One, because it's the right thing to do for the democracy. And two, because it immediately activates tens of thousands of voters who are predisposed to vote for Joe Biden."
Bloomberg aides said the former New York mayor, who is worth more than $50 billion, had raised the money for this effort from others and that the sum would not count against the $100 million or more he has personally committed to spend on behalf of Biden in the state.
The Bloomberg memo pointed out that the 31,790 targeted voters, including 25,548 who are Black, are nearly equivalent to the margin by which Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) won election in 2018, and about three times as big as the margin that elected Sen. Rick Scott (R-Fla.) that same year.
AD

It said Florida voters have largely already made up their minds about the November election, leaving "only a small margin of voters that are targets for persuasion."
"We know to win Florida we will need to persuade, motivate and add new votes to the Biden column," the document read. "This means we need to explore all avenues for finding the needed votes when so many votes are already determined."
Meade said his group would be in charge of spending the money raised by Bloomberg and will continue fundraising to enfranchise more Floridians with felony convictions.
"No person really dictates how we are operating," he said.
Updated January 7, 2021

Election 2020: Biden defeats Trump

The latest: Congress affirms Biden's presidential win following riot at U.S. Capitol
Graphic: How members of Congress voted on counting the electoral college vote
Live updates: Trump pledges 'orderly transition' after Biden is declared winner at the end of a violent day
25th Amendment: Senior officials have discussed removing Trump. Here's how that could work.
Election results under attack: Here are the facts
Full election results
687 Comments

Michael Scherer

Michael Scherer is a national political reporter at The Washington Post. He was previously the Washington bureau chief for Time magazine, where he also served as the White House correspondent. Before joining Time, he was the Washington correspondent for Salon.com.Follow

Comments are now closed

All comments sections automatically close 14 days after the story has published. For more details, please see our discussion guidelines.

Viewing Optionsarrow_drop_down

- Tutti i commenti 687

MonroeMI

4 mesi fa

Oh the irony. The FL GOP which disenfranchised former felons from voting after the 2018 FL electorate overwhelmingly said yes is now using their AG to disenfranchise these same felons again by "investigating" who pays their fines. Looks like in FL it is only ok to keep people from voting. How undemocratic of them.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

RandyJ

4 mesi fa

Kind of sounds like bribery.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

AstroMan1

4 mesi fa

Nope, just giving people something that should not have ben taken away by the Righties.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

HurryToto

4 mesi fa

As expected, the Florida AG is abusing her office with a politically motivated investigation. What Trump accuses others of, his GOP ovine minions will do to extremes. I hope Bloomberg sues her for abuse of process and malicious prosecution. She should lose her right to vote for this for of election interference. I voted for Bloomberg in the primary and would love to see him in the next cabinet.

Disenfranchising citizens for anything other than vote tampering, election fraud or voter interference is anti-democratic regardless of any racial impact. The fact that the impact is so obviously a means of intentional race-based vote suppression only proves this point.

Next the GOP will try to make being a white Democrat a felony! I can think of several plausibly deniable ways they can approach this, so don't be surprised when it starts.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

soccerman

4 mesi fa

"Disenfranchising citizens for anything other than vote tampering, election fraud or voter interference is anti-democratic regardless of any racial impact." - so you're okay with convicted murderers getting their voting rights restored? Or only black and Hispanic murderers?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Space Farce

4 mesi fa

If someone servers their sentence, why shouldn’t they be vote?

I doubt many convicted of murder, of any race, are out of jail. Your comment smacks of racism. Maybe you shouldn't be allowed to vote.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MonroeMI

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

You really need to read the law. Convicted sex offenders and murderers are not eligible to get their voting rights restored in FL; they were specifically excluded from restoration of their voting privileges.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

HurryToto

4 mesi fa

I stand by what I said. This country seems to search for ways to limit voting. We are among the most restrictive democracies in that respect. Take a look at other democracies. You may be surprised. The comparison is similar for health care. Hmmm.

https://felonvoting.procon.org/international-comparison-of-felon-voting-laws/?fbclid=IwAR0_wycMY3Xt3IAQkhNxKQOlh__738HWvlovwQzQraLOicYB0ru9RkPLVdg

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

soccerman

4 mesi fa

If Mr. Bloomberg were as fair and decent and unselfish as many posters have portrayed him, then why wouldn't he pay the fees, fines and restitution for *ALL* former felons who are otherwise eligible to vote? To limit his efforts to Black and Hispanic felons who he believes are likely to vote for Biden in just rich guy vigilantism - taking the law into his own hands, using his money to get what he wants.
He is a private citizen paying to skirt the law of a duly elected legislature and Governor to further his own agenda. He's making a racist assumption about how those he helps will vote and he is, in simplest terms, buying those votes.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Make It Count

4 mesi fa

Too bad. This time Democrats are bringing guns to a gun fight instead of our usual knives. Get used to it. LBJ would be proud!

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

AstroMan1

4 mesi fa

Exactly. About time!

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

vanatshokies

4 mesi fa

Well, that is exactly what he is doing. Legal too. Sorry it's so disappointing to you. (pause) Next!

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Space Farce

4 mesi fa

So you're ok with Republicans targeting specific voting, including some that might include convicted felons. We get it. You aren't thinking rationally.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Old Buck

4 mesi fa

Just go ahead and buy Florida Mike. Talk about a swamp. We would all be better off. Put DeSantis, Gaetz, Bondi and the rest of the Florida Trump lap dogs on a short leash. No Milk Bones!

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MyBeagleDaisyDoolittle

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Republicans will scream that Dem are buying votes, but the real screaming should be REPUBLICANS ARE SUPPRESSING THE VOTE. By the way Trump and all his fellow felons in the GOP are just as welcome to donate to that same nonprofit! Besides this organization might just help Trump get his right to vote back after his conviction since he's now a resident of Florida.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Elvis Nixon

4 mesi fa

Are Democrats the party of felons?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

CeeGEE11

4 mesi fa

NO, they are the party of what the VOTERS in Fl OVERWHELMINGLY approved of by a margin of 65%. Yes.....65% of the voters voted to allow felons to be able to vote.....and if 65% of Floridians voted Dem.....then the state would be Blue and Hillary would be president.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MyBeagleDaisyDoolittle

4 mesi fa

No, unfortunately the big felons are currently living in the White House.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

CeeGEE11

4 mesi fa

It is almost too late in Fl to even register to vote...at this election. There have been other groups also working over the last couple years to get the fines paid off for ex felons and get them registered to vote.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

flatrocksc

4 mesi fa

From what I read they are already registered, but were unable to vote because of outstanding fees. The article does state those are already registered and their outstanding debt is around 1,500.00.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Gray Grantham Jr

4 mesi fa

Where is that Washington Post article about how much $16 million (raised from a variety of sources) is to someone with the wealth of Bloomberg? It is something, but it isn't a lot.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Swan50

4 mesi fa

Nice response to the FL Court/Legislature's sucker punch ...

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

CeeGEE11

4 mesi fa

Well, the legislature did the EXACT same thing when the medical marijuana amendment was passed by the voters some years ago. The legislature decided on their own that they would not abide by what the voters approved of and REFUSED to allow the smoking of marijuana for medical reasons.

John Morgan (Morgan and Morgan law offices) pretty much financed the campaign to get medical marijuana passed in Fl due to health issues that his brother had where marijuana was very helpful to him. So John Morgan had to sue the state of Fl for many years (and won every court case) until finally, the current governor decided to stop fighting the issue, and people could smoke marijuana for their health issues...legally.

I wonder how much $$$ was wasted by the GOP legislature over these continued court cases? Fl teachers have some of the lowest salaries in the

nation....that $$$ could have gone to them or other concerns... instead of nonsense law suits...

But this is just the usual GOP trying to undermine the voters.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

brer fox

4 mesi fa

Sounds like the Democrats are promising the up-to-date version of "40 acres and a mule" to get votes.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Make It Count

4 mesi fa

Sounds like Florida Republicans suppressed the vote with their outrageous requirements (i.e., poll tax) for free men and women to vote! Go Bloomberg!

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

StSteven

4 mesi fa

For real, people - Can we please stop calling everyone who committed even a single crime, even years and years ago, a criminal or a felon?
Shall we call everyone whatever they were when they did the single worst thing they ever did?

Many PEOPLE, in fact most PEOPLE who have been convicted of a felony, did not victimize anyone, or do anything violent. Drug offences and low-end

theft are the most common felonies, and many people who go to prison never did anything really bad, they just violated less serious laws repeatedly. Many did this when they were young, and got caught up in a system from which it is often nearly impossible to exit.

But more to the point, defining someone as a single, or even two or three acts they did, at some time in the past, is incredibly dehumanizing. As though such PEOPLE have no other existence, no other attributes other than the crime they committed. It is thoughtless, prejudicial, dehumanizing language like this that allows people to disenfranchise other PEOPLE in the first place.

Have some respect for the humanity of others. Try to think about the meanings of the words and phrasings you use. Refer to people as people. People do things, sometimes good things, sometimes bad things. But they remain people. And if someone has committed a crime, and been convicted of a felony, and they manage to complete their sentence and be free of the justice system, i guarantee you they have become a decent, law abiding citizen. Because the justice system is designed to never let anyone out once they are in it. Let's give these PEOPLE, and all people, some respect.

Likethumb_up8
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Chris from Napa

4 mesi fa

Here is a man with some real integrity and who thinks beyond himself. He could be in a corner sulking because of his failed candidacy. Instead he is moving forward on all of the issues he was advocating in any way he can. This plan to emancipate voters in Florida is brilliant.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Bodhisaltva

4 mesi fa

so great that Bloomberg is spending his time and money to promote voting AND Biden, after his own candidacy ended.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Alter Ego

4 mesi fa

2018: Voters enact an amendment to the FL Constitution that former felons who had completed their sentences will have the right to vote.

2019: Florida Republicans *redefine* what it means for a felon to complete their sentence, saying it now includes paying all fines (and the state conveniently can't tell these former felons how much they actually owe -- but they better pay it back, or back to prison you will go if you vote!).

What I find fascinating (terrifying) is that this legal logic means we can define legal terms in the Constitution to mean whatever we want, even if it would change the underlying interpretation of the Constitution. And to do so, we just need to pass a simple law. This the practical interpretation of the FL Supreme Court decision (!).

This is so insane that the only reasonable interpretation is that the FL Supreme Court is now a political arm of the Republican Party and being used to suppress likely Democratic voters.

The US Supreme Court also showed it was an arm of the Republican Party when it overturned critical elements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, setting up this "alley-oop" for state-level actions like this.

This upcoming election is do or die for democracy. Vote, get your friends and family to vote, and join phone banking organizations. Phone banking is not as scary as it sounds. There are many organizations, e.g. Seed the Vote (and others), to join and help.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

CeeGEE11

4 mesi fa

You explained it very well. And the 2018 vote to allow felons to vote in Fl won overwhelming approval by both GOP and Dem voters.....and yet the Fl legislature decided to fight it . For "some " reason, they want to limit people from voting...wonder why?

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Gary Himert

4 mesi fa

2017 - Jon Mills, the former Florida Senate President argues the ballot initiative before the FL Supreme Court, as required by law. Retained by the ACLU and Amendment 4 team because of his political prowess.

In his argument before the Court, he was asked by Justice Poston about what constitutes “all terms”. Specifically Justice Poston asks about fines and fees. Mr Mills answers “yes, it includes all things within the four corners (of the sentence sheet, where fines, fees and restitution are specified)”.

So the ACLU and Amendment 4 team argued for a very specific position about what “all terms” meant, and when the Legislature provided the implementing law for the voter approved initiative, they placed in the law the exact thing that Mr Mills defined what, according to transcripts of the hearing, constitutes “all terms”.

The ACLU’s attorneys not only argued that, but for a long period of time, the ACLU of Florida’s website also stated the same. It’s now been removed but lives on cached as well. How does everyone seem so surprised this happened when it’s what the ACLU exactly argued for?

It’s all in the public record of the transcripts.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Patrick Harlan

4 mesi fa

I have researched the history of this issue in Florida and Gary Himert is exactly right as to what happened.

Lost in this discussion is the question of restitution. Those of us in Colorado Victims for Justice are fighting to change the criminal justice system in our state, so victims have a reasonable chance of collecting what offenders owe them. Being the victim of a violent crime is a terrible experience. The crippling bills that frequently follow as a result of the crime extends the suffering. And the lack of leverage provided by state law to force offenders to pay restitution is a brutal injustice.

Setting aside the political aspects of Bloomberg's action, Florida voters did the right thing in requiring criminals to take responsibility for their actions by paying their debts. Getting the rights of a citizen requires no less. I wish that Colorado voters were equally sensible.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Alter Ego

4 mesi fa

Except Florida can't tell anyone how much they owe. It's "guess and then vote, and if you're wrong you go to jail". There wouldn't be nearly as much frustration if Florida could let these people pay the fine to get their right to vote back. Instead this is straight up voter suppression.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

TrumpRocksOn

4 mesi fa

LITTLE MIKEY MIKE IS GOING TO LOOK REALLY CUTE IN HANDCUFFS LOL WHAT A DOPE

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Rational Agent19

4 mesi fa

trump morons performing as expected. Please go and attend trump's next infection rally, trumprocks.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jerry Steffens

4 mesi fa

Peddle that stuff in Moscow, Ivan.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Elizabeth Perkins-Harbin

4 mesi fa

Mike is a Mensch. Thank you Mike.

PS Jeff Bezos, ahem, cough cough.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Benderb4

4 mesi fa

Thanks, Mike, for helping your country in this moment of crisis. Now, if you have a few more millions lying around how about funding a program educating Pennsylvanians how to properly mail in their ballots?

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

winny075

4 mesi fa

People like this should never see the light beyond the cell doors! This is a travesty of our justice system! We cannot allow people who do not follow civil laws to make laws they should not be allowed to vote.
https://www.pix11.com/news/local-news/man-who-killed-2-nypd-officers-in-1971-to-be-released-on-parole-doc?fbclid=IwAR2ehyLLefZKsBKhN_AI-21sqwNVEhZ5LzyLa4MtR4nYIYsZsU5KAi1RM1g

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Benderb4

4 mesi fa

Your voter elimination program would include the most famous and dangerous lawbreaker of them all, Donald Trump?

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Annie Oakley 2020

4 mesi fa

It must be awful to live in fear and hatred.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Seattle-leftist

4 mesi fa

One of the requirements of leaving prison is to attain work and be self-supporting as soon as possible. Denying the vote to people out in the work world is "taxation without representation". Remember that?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Andreas Schulmeyer

4 mesi fa

Well done Mike. It's good to see him put real effort behind his promise to help elect Biden. FL is such a critical state and this looks like an effective use of money vs traditional efforts.

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Pontiacdragracer

4 mesi fa

Mike Bloomberg raises $16 million to allow former felons to vote in Florida.

And how is this any worse than trump telling people to vote twice? A felony by the way.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

winny075

4 mesi fa

Or when Obama on national TV, told people who are here illegally in our country to vote his reasoning was ‘nobody’s checking”

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Annie Oakley 2020

4 mesi fa

Yeah, that never happened.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

rastaman48

4 mesi fa

WT Hell? Do you bots and Qanon idiots actially read what you write? LOL

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

wvblonde

4 mesi fa

"Worse?" I don't understand the use of that word.

The people of Florida passed a referendum two years ago, I believe, to restore voting rights to felons who had completed their sentences. The ReThugs in the state legislature creatively overrode the results of that referendum, and the ReThug-controlled state supreme court agreed with them, decreeing that the ex-convicts had to finish paying "fines, fees, and court costs." Never mind that it's effectively a poll tax - nor that the state frequently couldn't say how much they owed! So I love this approach.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Benderb4

4 mesi fa

It is legal to vote in Florida if you are a former felon; it is illegal to vote twice.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

rowens1

4 mesi fa

Cool. Now the Florida Republican voter suppressors will have to actually come up with the actual amount owed and documented.

I'll bet thousands more have been threatened but the court reparations records "aren't "available."

Of course an ex-con who is broke and has no one to turn to with money might rather simply have a job and some spending money.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Alternative Truth

4 mesi fa

People should be allowed to participate in our democracy. This most sacred right to vote should never be taken away from citizens. The crazy republicans have been disenfranchising voters for decades. Apparently, the republicans believe it is the only way they can win elections by cheating and stealing votes. Trump claims the election is rigged. He should know, he and his minions have been rigging it.

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

jxbg9-11

4 mesi fa

Matt Gaetz is all excited about this saying it is buying votes. Perhaps he wants the money to go to People convicted of DUI. What a disgrace to the US House of Representatives but then his coNstituents are a bunch of ignorant hillbillies.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Rational Agent19

4 mesi fa

It's so good to irritate and frustrate the multiple DUI criminal Matt Gaetz. He knows he is going to lose.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

CPO USN Ret

4 mesi fa

Is this considered taxable income to the receipient?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

lostinthemiddle

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

The recipient is a non-profit, the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition.
They get the money and they pay the state/municipalities. The voters don't receive any money.

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Mike From Oregon

4 mesi fa

In a word, no.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

The Brown Buffalo

4 mesi fa

Bloomberg: I'll see your USPS and Kanye election trickery and raise you with restoring felons their right to vote.
I like it - fight fire with fire. The Dems need to get a little dirty and play some of the same shady games the GOP plays. The GOP has acquired the personality of Trump and Trump is a bully - and you can't play nice with a bully.

Likethumb_up11

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Womenholduphalfthesky

4 mesi fa

This is awesome! This is how you beat the slimy republicans at their own game. Felons should be able to vote once they have served their time. Being poor does not mean you lose your right to vote. The republicans put in this new requirement about court fees etc.. just to help Trump (ironically it's Trump who should be the convicted felon- and hopefully soon he will be).

Likethumb_up11

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Florida Reader

4 mesi fa

Why, Trump should be grateful for this should he ever be a convicted felon and a Florida resident.

But many of his crimes are in New York State. Too bad.....

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Eightiron

4 mesi fa

Felons and democrat party are natural bedmates.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

The Brown Buffalo

4 mesi fa

"Felons (Manafort, Cohen, Flynn, Bannon, Stone, Collins, Trump after he gets booted out of office, etc, etc, etc) and republican party are natural bedmates."
FIFY. You're welcome.

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Rational Agent19

4 mesi fa

Are you fearful, little eightiron? You should be. Have you attended one of trump's virus-spreading rallies yet? Please do.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

gfisher

4 mesi fa

Shouldn't this be "Bloomberg BUYS votes in Florida?"

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

The Brown Buffalo

4 mesi fa

Did you ask that same question when Trump held up stimulus checks so he could have his name and signature printed on them?

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MeToo

4 mesi fa

Not to forget the follow-up thank you letter (!) to recipients . . .
How much did that cost taxpayers?

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Rational Agent19

4 mesi fa

How is it buying votes, gfisher?
There is no request for the ex-felons to vote for any particular candidate. The ex-felons were dishonestly disenfranchised by the GOP, so they may be reluctant to support the GOP. That's the responsibility of the GOP. Too bad.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

StSteven

4 mesi fa

They can vote as they please. There are no strings attached.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Fathomer

4 mesi fa

I've treated Bloomberg's claims to help the Democratic cause with no small degree of skepticism since that abomination of a primary campaign he ran, but I have to give him credit, this is a classy way to help.

Would make a bit more of a bang if he used his own money, and would be a bit more respectful if he put it impartially towards any such debts in FL instead of targeting minorities, but still, putting cash to use by directly tackling reenfranchisement is pretty commendable.

Kudos to Mike.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ITGuy1

4 mesi fa

Dems know where their loyal base is.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Fathomer

4 mesi fa

People who've paid their debt to society, in the classical meaning of the term, and are *still* getting screwed over by Republicans insisting that they're not real citizens?

It's not what you'd call a base, but sure, the demographic is a ridiculously easy win for Democrats.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

kenny11

4 mesi fa

Good!

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Mammiesgoat

4 mesi fa

Great! Wonderful ! Money SHOULD BE USED FOR the salvation of mankind.

If, I had the extreme wealth, that some people hold onto, I would have a wonderful time, every day, seeking needy causes, by which to share my wealth.

ALL homes in America would be safe and livable, with fresh clean running water and electricity. No human being would live on-the-edge in the woods or on a sidewalk. Abandoned buildings, would immediately b refurbished for housing & employment.

From the smallest schools in the country to the largest city schools, each child would be clothed & fed. No child would fear going home.

We hv 2 MAKE Trump GO, taking w/him, the leeches that suck blood from barely surviving human beings. Low wages, substandard living conditions and the abundance of drugs shld be a main focus of ALL Americans.

We need to heal from the wounds, that Trump has inflicted. Fl Governor DeSantis, along with Rick Scott & Marco Rubio hv followed Trumps lead of suppression, in the State. Mike Bloomberg has now helped felons be able to solve one big problem in being able to pay off the debt owed to the State.

NOW, they have a chance to vote which can make a huge difference, for those folks, who pray that Trump will be sent off to a secluded island or jail !

Likethumb_up10
Linklink

Segnalaflag

SBA123

4 mesi fa

Wow! Mr. Bloomberg sure knows how to wield a scalpel for democracy!

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ITGuy1

4 mesi fa

You mean "...for Democrats".

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LMcShane

4 mesi fa

No, for democracy.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Pontiacdragracer

4 mesi fa

itguy - So it's OK for trump to tell people to vote twice?

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Hypnoswede

4 mesi fa

Michael Bloomberg is really only 4'-8".
It's a fact!

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Pontiacdragracer

4 mesi fa

And no doubt twice the man that trump or you might be.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Elizabeth Perkins-Harbin

4 mesi fa

Thanks hypnoswede! That changes everything for this voter.
Now I can vote based on someone's appearance instead of their ethics or politics.
Whew, close one!

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Hypnoswede

4 mesi fa

I ❤ that little mf.
Nothing but love.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Teri Goodson

4 mesi fa

Thank you Mr. Bloomberg.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Kenny Mack

4 mesi fa

I'm sure many of these men and women are working and paying taxes yet they are not allowed to vote. What a shame.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Scarlett AZ

4 mesi fa

How do I donate to this fund?

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

bjohnson1

4 mesi fa

You can donate at FloridaRRC.com

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Scarlett AZ

4 mesi fa

Thanks!

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Oaklandr

4 mesi fa

The Bloomberg memo pointed out that the 31,790 targeted voters, including 25,548 who are Black, are nearly equivalent to the margin by which Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) won election in 2018, and about three times as big as the margin that elected Sen. Rick Scott (R-Fla.) that same year.

It said Florida voters have largely already made up their minds about the November election, leaving “only a small margin of voters that are targets for persuasion.”

The mind boggles! If this statement were true, I would have thought Bloomberg, the business genius that he is, would have used as much of the $100 million to pay the fines of Black and Hispanics and let the Cuban former inmates rot in election never never land. That should show Ms. Lagoa, De Santis, the e f f i n g GOP Fl. legislature and Trump that you don't mess with a real mega billionaire.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Womenholduphalfthesky

4 mesi fa

Ron DeSantis is as dumb as a rock. I have heard him speak and was shocked that Floridians would vote for such a dolt.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Rational Agent19

4 mesi fa

Isn't that exactly what Mike Bloomberg IS doing, Oaklander?

Likethumb_up
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jakemaster

4 mesi fa

So this is what the allegedly mentally and morally superior Democrats approve of, racism and bribery to buy the criminals' votes.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

The Dowager Queen Beastly

4 mesi fa

@Jake

Goodbye, troll. Blocked.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Womenholduphalfthesky

4 mesi fa

Sadly, we have to play the republican's game to save the country. The majority of the nation wants Trump and his swamp critters out but the republicans will cheat their way to victory if possible. At my early voting location the Trumpies are already out trying to intimidate voters which is illegal here. What Bloomberg is doing is totally legal.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Pontiacdragracer

4 mesi fa

So this is what the allegedly mentally and morally superior christian republicans approve of, racism, lying and bribery to buy the criminal some votes.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Timaeus

4 mesi fa

Buying votes. Sounds kosher to me.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LMcShane

4 mesi fa

That's EXACTLY what the last-minute announcement (by the Trump administration) is about, regarding the new multi-billion dollar pay-off to farmers...you know, because of their economic hardships. (Due to the loss of market, caused by the trade war with China.) Trump is using YOUR tax dollars to buy votes...SURPRISE! And how about the 'epiphany' that Trump had, regarding the aid money for Puerto Rico, to improve the island's power grid? Less than 50 days before the election, the Trump Administration magically releases billions of dollars of aid, that was somehow "held up". Gee, could this be a way of ginning up votes from expatriate Puerto Rican's? Gasp and swoon, such coincidence!

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

R B Whitehead

4 mesi fa

He's enabling them to vote, not telling them how to vote. Try again.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Pontiacdragracer

4 mesi fa

At least Bloomberg isn't trying to kill people by holding super spreader rallies.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

Jakemaster

4 mesi fa

So the morally challenged liberals here are okay with this blatant and racist attempt to buy the votes of the dregs of FL's society, but Trump is so evil!

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lily Rowan

4 mesi fa

Trump asked a foreign country to help elect him; & got it.

Trump is ignoring the deaths of 200,000 Americans. Now that *is* evil.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Pontiacdragracer

4 mesi fa

but Trump is so evil!

jake, It's good you see the real trump.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

SoccerKowboy

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

This is brilliant. Almost a guaranteed return on investment, surely a much better use of campaign donations than TV ads. I'm sure it's totally pissing off Republicans as well. Where do I donate?

Likethumb_up14

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Timaeus

4 mesi fa

Hey, he can stand on the street corner handing out Benjamins to voters.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

bjohnson1

4 mesi fa

You can donate at FloridaRRC.com

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

The Dowager Queen Beastly

4 mesi fa

Thank you, I just donated. Down with poll taxes, up with suffrage!

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Bones12

4 mesi fa

Thank you Michael Bloomberg! Thank you to all of the supporters and donors of this project!

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

uncle_jules

4 mesi fa

My law firm is donating hundreds of hours to this project on behalf of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition. For each person we have been manually searching the court records to add up unpaid fines. It is grueling work because - as you would expect - Florida has no interest making it easy for anyone. I am constantly amazed at how difficult a state can make something so hard for its citizens to exercise a fundamental right. Sigh. But living in MD it makes me feel like I am doing something positive in this election.

Likethumb_up16

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Bones12

4 mesi fa

AWESOME, unclel_jules!

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Rational Agent19

4 mesi fa

Thank you for pitching in with your specialized skills, Uncle Jules. We need everyone on board and helping to defeat the trump criminals.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Californio2

4 mesi fa

Thanks Mike, and donors, and LeBron James! Good man!

Likethumb_up13

Linklink

Segnalaflag

velcro3

4 mesi fa

Kudos to you, Michael Bloomberg, for your very generous and kind efforts.

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

AbsenteeBallotman

4 mesi fa

Hahahaha! Bloomberg is blowing the repressive and immoral partisan Florida GOP system out of the water!

Likethumb_up14

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Keep_Calm_And_Make_DC_A_State

4 mesi fa

Thank you Mike Bloomberg. Republicans need to be shown there is a serious threat of backlash to what they have done over the past 4 years.

Likethumb_up14
Linklink

Segnalaflag

MsDinosaur2

4 mesi fa

I was no fan of Bloomberg's candidacy, but I am a huge fan of this. Boo Hiss to the evil Republicans who drummed up these poll taxes to prevent Democrats from voting.

Likethumb_up17

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jakemaster

4 mesi fa

Sorry liar and moral degenerate, but fines from criminal convictions are NOT poll taxes.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Kenny Mack

4 mesi fa

They are when used to take away your right to vote. Speaking of liars and moral degenerates, I think I know who you'll be voting for. Why are you wasting your time here? You should be getting your daily dose of propaganda from Faux News.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ITGuy1

4 mesi fa

The criminals gave up their right to vote when they chose to commit felonies.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

R B Whitehead

4 mesi fa

The people of Florida voted by a substantial majority to restore their voting rights.

Likethumb_up4
Linklink

Segnalaflag

jxbg9-11

4 mesi fa

You are an i*d*i*o*t

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

2 Headed Octopus

4 mesi fa

Mike Bloomberg, American patriot

Likethumb_up14

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Bones12

4 mesi fa

2nd that!

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Romerivergirl

4 mesi fa

I live in Florida and can tell you when we voted to approve the amendment to reinstate those voting rights, there was never any thought of making the ex-felons pay court costs. It was a requirement completely fabricated by the Republican legislature and governor. I'm so happy Bloomberg is stepping up to help!

Likethumb_up25

Linklink

Segnalaflag

njg45

4 mesi fa

What about the numbers of those who have served their time who struggle to find out how much they owe (why do they owe anything after serving their time) because there is not a record of how much?

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jo Friday

4 mesi fa

With that kind of money, maybe somebody can figure it out.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Deborah 1782 Sampson

4 mesi fa

Thank you Mike -you are cool . Love, G& H

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Susan B_A from Resistanceville

4 mesi fa

Bravo, Mike!

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Robert Spork

4 mesi fa

Haha, this kind of rules. Getting voting rights back for potential Dem voters and making sure potential Republican voters are left twisting in the wind. Glad to see even Bloomberg can do one good thing.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

L Braverman- NYC

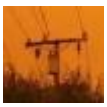
4 mesi fa

Bloomberg was my mayor, & I was happy to see him do a lot of good things. He was an excellent mayor, and as a result I donated to his fund to help the victims of Superstorm (Hurricane) Sandy at that time.

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag



Erlang Fowler

4 mesi fa

The State of Florida spent millions to implement and administer fines just so they could deny people the right to vote. Maybe the fines will pay for themselves, maybe not. The taxpayers end up paying for whatever Mike Bloomberg doesn't cover. So much for GOP fiscal responsibility. Like Moscow Mitch, "it's all about power."

Likethumb_up18

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Bethany Chance

4 mesi fa

Glad he hosted that fundraiser . . . . BUT It's not his wealth. He could have obliterated that debt a long time ago. Still glad these voters are being helped, but it's a drop in the bucket compared to those who didn't register because of Florida's egregious voter suppression and constant efforts to undermine the decisions of its voters. He could have shoved it up the obstructionists MAGAts butts with one big fat check. This doesn't need to be about party, but about helping to fight ANY voter suppression, and about enacting the intentions of Florida citizens.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ronbweather

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

He could have obliterated that debt a long time ago.

No he could not have. Each fine must be paid exactly what is owed, and that information is not readily available. It's a deliberate catch-22. Bloomberg would need an Army of volunteers to pry that information out of the FL corrections system.

Likethumb_up16

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ecwblue

4 mesi fa

In Florida, the last date to register to vote for the November 3rd election is October 5th.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Turnflblue

4 mesi fa

You are exactly right. The DeathSantis government is confuscating the entire process, starting with the amount of fines owed. I'm really impressed and glad Bloomberg is helping raise these funds. I do hope these people actually vote, but apparently they are already registered. They might have shown up at the polls, to then have their vote invalidated.

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Dr Mike

4 mesi fa

Actually, it has required tons of pro bono lawyers to even research how much each person owes to fulfill their financial obligations. It is an individual effort, there is no way write just "one big fat check". Each person requires an individual check for the exact amount of their fines and fees. Then the lawyers have to follow up to make sure that the money is applied in a reasonable time and that person's voting rights are restored and have them re-register to vote, all by October 5th.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jen Brads

4 mesi fa

I love this. This is so awesome of Bloomberg. These people have no money-they are poor, they have no life from being in jail (and it's really scary how easily innocent people can be put in jail). This is love, kindness and the right thing to do. Thank you Mike Bloomberg!!

Likethumb_up21
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Glan Tai

4 mesi fa

Let’s hope they flock to the polls and *VOTE BLUE!*

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Glan Tai

4 mesi fa

$16 million?! That’s it?! Couldn’t Mike just write the state a $100 million check and be down with the whole thing?

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ronbweather

4 mesi fa

no, that would not work. Each fine must be paid exactly what is owed, and that information is not readily available. It's a deliberate catch-22.

Likethumb_up16

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Glan Tai

4 mesi fa

If he paid the lump sum owed to the penny, he would, by default, pay each exactly as it is owed.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ronbweather

4 mesi fa

Even if the exact total amount could be determined, DeSantis and company would insist each fine be individually itemized and paid. Unfortunately, Republicans have thought of all the road blocks, so Bloomberg's mission will unfortunately fail.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Womenholduphalfthesky

4 mesi fa

But can it be done in time? Will they just stall or not count the payments? Will these people get registered in time and will they actually vote? I hope so but there are a lot of things that need to happen.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Skeptic66

4 mesi fa

This is amazing! But I thought part of the problem was it was difficult for people to find out how much their fines were after time? Does anyone know what is up with that?

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ronbweather

4 mesi fa

yes, see my post just before.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ronbweather

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Many of these ex-cons are unable to get the paperwork detailing exactly what they owe. Republicans say they must pay *exactly* what they owe, but they can't pay when they don't know the exact amount of the fines plus interest. It's a *catch-22* only mendacious Republican scoundrels would pull.

Likethumb_up15

Linklink

Segnalaflag

daxelson

4 mesi fa

Wow. I'm three states away from Florida and don't have $50 Billion, and I could see this as an effective move months ago.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Geoffrey Owen

4 mesi fa

Bravo Mike! After the voters had a referendum to allow this returned citizens to vote, the Republicans went to court to challenge them with nothing less than a poll tax. Now drive them to polls.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

BugEyed

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

In normal times I would hate the fact that any one person can throw his wealth around to influence elections but these are not normal times. Bloomberg and James are just helping to ensure that the will of the people is implemented. They're fighting corruption.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Turnflblue

4 mesi fa

In normal times and other circumstances I'd agree. You can of course course make the argument that money is influencing the election, much like what Citizens' United does.. However in this case, IMHO, it is about enabling people exercise their right to vote, it is about removing barriers and voter supression, it is about negating what is essentially a poll tax. We voted to restore their right to vote, yet...what else can you expect from republicans?

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MaryMitch

4 mesi fa

I'm glad to see Bloomberg doing this. However, I'm sorry to see the state of Florida profit from it.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

mary cannaday

4 mesi fa

Why?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Glan Tai

4 mesi fa

Why should the state of Florida profit from it’s illegal poll tax?

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MaryMitch

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Mary: because they are actively keeping people from voting. The citizens of Florida overwhelmingly voted to let felons vote after serving their time in jail.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LBrunner

4 mesi fa

Excellent! I was hoping that he would do something like this.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

dagwood47

4 mesi fa

Good for him.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

buckobill

4 mesi fa

Didn’t judge Logoa change her name from
Jane Crow ?

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Rebecca R

4 mesi fa

Thank you, Mike Bloomberg, LeBron James, and anyone else helping to right this outrageous, egregious, Jim Crow disenfranchisement poll tax! I hope DeathSantis goes straight to hell, where he belongs!

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

pat standish

4 mesi fa

watch the hypocrites in the GOP-controlled legislature pass some other evil law to frustrate this.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Mama O

4 mesi fa

Mike Bloomberg is a mensch.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

American in Asia

4 mesi fa

Yep, menschkeit.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

HomeSweetHome

4 mesi fa

"Thank you, Mr. Bloomberg."

I wish I could send this to you a thousand times.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

oneandonlyone

4 mesi fa

Look for the dump's IRS to declare this to be taxable income. If the IRS does not do so, Barr will see to it that they do.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Sartoris Marshall

4 mesi fa

unlike the perpetually bankrupt Trump I am sure that Mr. Bloomberg has no problem paying his taxes.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

oneandonlyone

4 mesi fa

Not Bloomberg's taxes. The recipients of the money will owe taxes on it if the IRS says so. I'm not saying that is right, it is very wrong. But I suspect if the dump can get away with it, it will happen.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LarryAt27N

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

If the money is funneled to the ex-felons through a non-profit, then the funds are considered non-taxable gifts. There may be a ceiling, of which I am not aware.
 This has nothing to do with Bloomberg.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

pacific loon

4 mesi fa

I am assuming that all of these registered voters also have proper documentation of the amount they owe? Because many people have received conflicting information and the state has said that it won't be able to give accurate accountings until 2024 (or so) -- two full elections cycles away. But they *will* prosecute anyone who votes without paying every single fine or fee.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Rebecca R

4 mesi fa

No - the state made it their business to deny access to that information - the purpose was straight out overruling of the will of a clear majority of Florida voters, and suppressing the votes of those who had served their time.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Justice-Equality-Truth-Accountability-Unity

4 mesi fa

Thank you Mayor Bloomberg and LeBron James for recognizing that 65%—2/3 of Florida Voters—made it very clear on November 19, 2018, to DeSantis, FL repub legislature, trump*, the RNC, and the courts that they wanted felons' right to vote reinstated when they complete their sentence.

Voter Suppression is alive and well in Florida!

"In November [2018] Florida voters approved a groundbreaking ballot measure that would restore voting rights for up to 1.5 million people with felony convictions.

"But the Republican-led Legislature voted on [12/2019...one year latter!] to impose a series of sharp restrictions that could prevent tens of thousands of them from ever reaching the ballot.

"With the House voting 67-42 along party lines on [May 2019] to endorse the new restrictions, the legislation goes next to Gov. Ron DeSantis, who had called on the Legislature to set additional standards for registering ex-felons to vote."

FLORIDA STATE CONSTITUTION FL AMENDMENT:

Affirmative 4,770,215 65% [2/3's of voters!]
No 2,603,372 35% Republican House Votes: 67 Republican Roberts Court: 6
U.S. Appeals Court. 6 trump* appointees including Barbara Lagoa, one of trump*s Supreme Court Nominees who had just been appointed by trrump* to the 11th Circuit 10 months prior.

So, how can 79 Republican votes take away 4,770,215 votes of the American People?

Do the republicans ever consider what the American People want?

Majority Want Roe v. Wade.

Majority Do Not Want a Supreme Court Justice to be pushed through as trump*s repubs have done the last 4 years.

Well, time for We the People to really show our majority on November 3rd!

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

HomeSweetHome

4 mesi fa

Vote America.

Vote to keep our Democracy.

Vote to take back our White House.

Vote to take back the Government we have built.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

commonsense2014

4 mesi fa

Why do democrats think all felons vote democratic?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

SBinCA

4 mesi fa

The question is - do Florida Republican lawmakers? Why do they have laws like this? The debt to society will be paid in full.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

starryvertigo

4 mesi fa

Why do we have in 2020 voting laws designed to harm African Americans disproportionately more than whites? This used to be a thing in the South and still is.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

buckobill

4 mesi fa

Logoa = CROW, Jane

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Justice-Equality-Truth-Accountability-Unity

4 mesi fa

Why do trump*s repubs think all repubs for for trump*?

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

brer fox

4 mesi fa

Former New York mayor Mike Bloomberg and his team have raised more than $16 million to pay the court fines and fees of nearly 32,000 Black and Hispanic Florida voters with felony convictions, an effort aimed at boosting turnout for Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden.

Five thousand dollars a vote! Can that possibly be legal? This is election fraud of the highest order.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

CalZoni

4 mesi fa

It's about $500 per person. And why is this election fraud? The funds are being used to pay fines to give felons the ability to vote. They're not being told to vote, how to vote, or even that they have to vote.

Likethumb_up19

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Sartoris Marshall

4 mesi fa

it's only election fraud to users named brer stupid and brer stupider.....

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LarryAt27N

4 mesi fa

bot!

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

buckobill

4 mesi fa

No , it's being kind to people who need help but, oops !, I forgot, that doesn't mean anything the TALIBANgelical Christians !

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

Thomas A Horsley

4 mesi fa

Good luck with that since Florida has made it impossible to find out what you owe or how to pay it.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

HomeSweetHome

4 mesi fa

"Good luck with that since Florida has made it impossible to find out what you owe or how to pay it."

Then they take DeSantis an the republicans back to court over a lie.

It should also be noted that DeSantis and the republicans in that legislature could be facing charges of voter intimidation and suppression.

Those are felonies and they cannot hide behind their positions in the government.

Also keep in mind this is a "Poll Tax" which is against the law and a crime.

These republicans have gone way to far.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

buckobill

4 mesi fa

They fool with Mike Bloomberg at their peril.
Virtually every successful finance professional has a BLOOMBERG TERMINAL on their desk BECAUSE he has 20,000 highly skilled and aggressive pros working on financial information gathering !
He probably knows more about the finances of Rump, Scott, DeSantis, Rubio and state officials than they know about themselves .

Be careful of a guy with brains, billions, bundles of personal info, a mission AND A BRASS PAIR !
I sure would b !

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Thin The Herd Two

4 mesi fa

Sixty years of America’s mostly hostile policy toward Cuba has brought the Cuban-Americans little to nothing.

You would think that long a record of failure would suggest a new approach.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

FancyPantsGangstair

4 mesi fa

You mean like the one Obama took, attempting to open it up to tourism as a start, and then was almost immediately reversed by Dotard Donnie? Once most of the old communist haters have gotten out of power, Cuba will once again be approached for a normalization of relations.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

buckobill

4 mesi fa

You would also think, correctly, that many/most are REPUBS so I wouldn't look to logic but to the politics of GRIEVANCE !

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Thin The Herd Two

4 mesi fa

Nothing Republicans fear more than a fair election.

Likethumb_up15

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Nikki Aiello

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

I salute you Mr. Bloomberg. This is a stand up action you are doing for the Democrats. Bless you kind Sir.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Bill Brown

4 mesi fa

Bloomberg is using his millions to pay off a modern version of a poll tax. Good work, Mike!

Likethumb_up14

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Canadian Visitor

4 mesi fa

As a Canadian, I share the frustration of wanting to Dump Trump yet lacking the right to vote. Now I see there is a way - I will donate to the cause and trust that SOMEONE will cast a vote that represents my choice. While currently they and I cannot vote, with my help someone will be enabled - and forever enabled! That's good enough for me eh? I hope to see other Canadians joining the effort and donating for the votes! And of course helping to make right a terrrible injustice.

Likethumb_up18

Linklink

Segnalaflag

socal90

4 mesi fa

I think it would be safe to say that Meade's non-partisan group has not received any donations from Republicans.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

len1

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

I'm waiting for Trump to cough up his 100 million for his campaign
as he said he would. The Democrats money machine is powered by
 incredible Trump disgust. You can see and feel it in the long voting lines. The anti Trump energy is palpable. They really hate that ba$t..d.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Dave in Oregon

4 mesi fa

Any Trump funds that Trump directs to his campaign will be in the form of "loans" to be repaid by his "donors" who profit from his corruption. However, it looks like he's going to lose and he might need that money for his legal expenses.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

CalZoni

4 mesi fa

Trump has diverted several million dollars of campaign contributions to his businesses, and paid more than $58M in legal fees. I seriously doubt he's going to contribute anything. And, as we all know anyway, if he said it it's 100% a lie, so don't hold your breath.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

buckobill

4 mesi fa

And his BASETARDS (sic)

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Eric Hold

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Poor Mini Mike.....how did that last attempt at buying an election work for ya lil buddy?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

buckobill

4 mesi fa

Trust this ERIC HOLD : everyone in America but you would rather be MIGHTY MIKE,

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

JFLMIA

4 mesi fa

I neglected to mention. Bloomberg definitely deserves the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize. What does Trump deserve? I need to stop here.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

mywpweb

4 mesi fa

I applaud Bloomberg's move here. It's as much moral as it is financial. I bet Florida Republicans were banking (no pun intended) on disenfranchising tens of thousands of ex-felons by inflicting what amounts to a poll tax on their right to vote. It's good to see some wealthy, principled people put their money where their mouth is to combat the GOP's shady voter suppression tactics. It would be great not to need this financial help but wonderful to see Bloomberg pitch in.

Likethumb_up16

Linklink

Segnalaflag

JFLMIA

4 mesi fa

DeSpicablantis will levy income tax on whatever was paid for the former felons' fees, costs, restitution. And by the way, the tax was due on August 31.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

mywpweb

4 mesi fa

Lol he must be punching the air right now.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

liberalct

4 mesi fa

Florida is so transparent. A referendum passed allowing felons to vote,and the Republicons decided to ignore the will of it's citizens. Disgusting Florida republicons, disgusting!

Likethumb_up15

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Thin The Herd Two

4 mesi fa

Almost all Republicans have elected to be anti-American gobshites.

The ones who aren’t are backing the Lincoln Project and Republicans Against Trump.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

joyce hajnik

4 mesi fa

Those Cuban Americans believe tRump's lies about Joe being a socialist. This needs to be addressed by Bloomberg's ads.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Berkshire9

4 mesi fa

"Those Cuban Americans" remember that the Democrats tried to ease the restrictive laws and allow the Cubans on the "island" to have a better life. They want the islanders to suffer so much that they will rise up and end the Communist regime. It "ain't" going to happen. The younger generation of Cuban-Americans may see it in a different way. Let's hope so.

Likethumb_up1
Linklink

Segnalaflag

JFLMIA

4 mesi fa

Bloomberg never even thought about the Nobel Peace Prize. He is focused on getting people's lives back to work and being able to vote. He deserves and sets an image about what Americans can do. Bloomberg makes me proud of being an American.

Likethumb_up13

Linklink

Segnalaflag

makawaka

4 mesi fa

Someone mentioned that that $100 million he put in the Democratic coffers last month should have gone toward to these felons. He listened, and we are grateful for his assistance. A newfound respect for Mike Bloomberg. Thanks, Mike, every little bit counts as we try to reclaim the soul of America.

Likethumb_up22

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ExperimentalTheologian

4 mesi fa

I actually wrote to him at his work and personal emails and asked him to consider this. I am very happy that he was already thinking along these lines. Very efficient and cost-effective way of bringing more voters into the picture.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ricpaper1963%40gmail.com

4 mesi fa

MIKE ARE YOU PRECLUDDED FROM THIS OFFER IF YOU ARE A WHITE MALE. I WOULD LIKE TO VOTE TOO.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Doc OBizzle

4 mesi fa

It’s based on need. Are you a felon with outstanding debt to the state? If so, you should ask.

But when you ask, use spell check in the application.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

The Dowager Queen Beastly

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

@Ricpaper

If you are a FL ex-felon barred from voting by unpaid fines, click here to apply. They don't care what color, gender, or poliical persuasion you are. But Wapo readers can tell you're a white male Trump voter by your whiny self-centered pique.

https://floridarrc.com

Likethumb_up
Linklink

Segnalaflag

SMCanada

4 mesi fa

What else can Mike do with his money? Run informational ads on Trump facts about virus and taxes on Fox News - Hannity and Tucker shows.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

JFLMIA

4 mesi fa

Trump whisper to Barr: I want Bloomberg arrested for violating the Sedition Act.
Barr to Trump: That's a tough one. I'm getting Rudy on it, now.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Joseph B1

4 mesi fa

I want to know if all Florida voters who owe fines are ineligible to vote. That means if you have a past due library book or speeding ticket you can't vote in Florida, a total attack on democracy.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

Since we, as a state, voted to enact the right for former felons to be reinstated on the voting roles, the GOP here has done everything they can think of to thwart our efforts to
re-enfranchise them, We thought the amendment was clear since we made no such qualifications as a criteria for the re-instatement. Being the obstructionists they are, our Congress created this loophole and took it to the conservative Florida Courts. This disenfranchisement was the inevitable result.

I applaud Mike Bloomberg's efforts to right this wrong. Hopefully, after this election is over we will again vote on an amendment that closes this loophole that the GOP and courts have taken advantage of. Thank you, Mike.

Likethumb_up26

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Tiredandold

4 mesi fa

Imagine if he spent that money on training US citizens that lost their jobs. Or building hospitals or beds for rehabs.

no. Dems will use averyrhing to get elected and then eliminate all border walls and defund the police and expand immigration, all so they can have their cheap organic strawberries picked by disposable guest workers. And to keep their masters bezos and zuckerberg happy

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

pas.argenio

4 mesi fa

Don't forget our beloved death panels, brick!

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

TruthSerum19

4 mesi fa

We now know that Republicans will do anything to win. The Florida law, passed by the Republicans, requiring all debts to be payed, and against the will of the people, assured the likely permanent disenfranchisement of people who had “done their time” for breaking laws. Don’t give us any damn lectures about what Democrats will do.

Likethumb_up21

Linklink

Segnalaflag

indep

4 mesi fa

We know that Republicans will do anything they can to prevent people from voting. Who do you think picks your fruit and vegetables? Will you or your children work in the fields?

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

Jeanie Blake

4 mesi fa

Mike is wonderful. I admire him so much.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

nac1975

4 mesi fa

Better use of $16MM than political television and web ads.

Likethumb_up16

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LeoMarius

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

The people who think "a well regulated militia" means individual gun rights don't think that a ban on poll taxes applies to keeping people from voting due to excessive fines.

This is Jim Crow 2.0, enforced by the bigoted governor who called his black opponent a monkey.

"The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay poll tax or other tax."

Likethumb_up22

Linklink

Segnalaflag

An Toan

4 mesi fa

Mike, thanks !!!

Likethumb_up15

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MyBeagleDaisyDoolittle

4 mesi fa

I can hear the GOP screaming now! . They might get to complain about something that’s true for a change! Thanks Bloomberg!

Likethumb_up13

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LeoMarius

4 mesi fa

I'm screaming, because these fines are a reimposition of poll taxes that are explicitly and clearly banned by the 24th Amendment. This is Jim Crow for the 21st Century.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay poll tax or other tax.

Likethumb_up16

Linklink

Segnalaflag

nac1975

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

I like political parties that uphold the constitution. I like political parties that don't intentionally violate the 24th Amendment.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

aghast observer

4 mesi fa

Maybe someday Florida might come to its senses, and get rid of the pay-fines-before-voting BS. Not holding my breath, though.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

timnsan6

4 mesi fa

I like Mike. Way to go man.

Likethumb_up15
Linklink

Segnalaflag

nowon2u

4 mesi fa

I am so seriously glad that this has happen. Don't give those repulsive clowns a inch.

Likethumb_up23

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ArlingtonSandy

4 mesi fa

This is a great program. Restitution of voting rights means a lot to ex-felons. It's a stamp of approval recognizing their return to mainstream American just like all the other citizens.

Likethumb_up23

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ChamisaChill

4 mesi fa

Good for Bloomberg. Could you ever picture trump spending a cent to help anyone who's down and out?

Likethumb_up29

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LeoMarius

4 mesi fa

Trump thinks money should flow one way, into his pocket.

Likethumb_up14

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ArlingtonSandy

4 mesi fa

Nah, it's okay for Ivanka to get some as long as it doesn't have to come from his tight-zipped pockets.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LeoMarius

4 mesi fa

As long as she sits on Daddy's lap.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

RedRaider2582

4 mesi fa

Schwing!

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

B I Feldman

4 mesi fa

In a time of moral midgets Mike Bloomberg is a moral giant. Kudos. Sincere respect, sir.

Likethumb_up26

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LeoMarius

4 mesi fa

The same party that thinks the 2nd Amendment gives everyone the right to unlimited guns doesn't know that the 24th Amendment bans poll taxes.

Likethumb_up19

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ArlingtonSandy

4 mesi fa

They want to follow the amendments they like and stuff the rest.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LeoMarius

4 mesi fa

Just like they do with Bible verses.

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Simnsays

4 mesi fa

The citizens of Florida, who overwhelmingly voted to restore felons rights, thank you... Duh-Santis and the rest of the ingrates in Tallahassee who *went out of their way to thumb their noses at the voters*, can stick it where there's no sunshine.

Vote!

Likethumb_up24

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ArlingtonSandy

4 mesi fa

It makes me want to cry, so sad for a lot of Americans who value the rights of citizenship and deserve to be able to vote.

Likethumb_up14

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ez1947

4 mesi fa

Floridians should declare DeSantis governor of the No Sunshine State.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LeoMarius

4 mesi fa

This is an obvious violation of the 24th Amendment. Any financial barrier to voting, including Voter ID laws, are a poll tax designed to suppress and disenfranchise voters.

Likethumb_up13

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Monster Blob

4 mesi fa

Is there still enough time for them to pay their fines and then get registered?

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

pas.argenio

4 mesi fa

From what I am hearing, even if they have the money, it's difficult to get anyone on the phone, find out what is owed, and actually pay it off, let alone vote. Criminal GOP keeps criming.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

It states in the article that the initial fines will be paid for those already registered but denied the vote via the court.
A number of ex-cons (about 32,000) registered as soon as the amendment became law but were subsequently denied that right due to the court's rulings.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

TruthSerum19

4 mesi fa

Only already registered people are eligible for the assistance. Count on Republicans trying to put administrative barriers in place so that payment of all fines must be done 60 days in advance through a tortuous process.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

aghast observer

4 mesi fa

I wonder how a Republican-stacked Supreme Court would handle this now.

Nah, just kidding. They would uphold the pay-the-fines-or-no-voting, of course.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

VLC

4 mesi fa

Who wants to bet DeSantis and/or the GOP legislature tries to find another loophole to prevent these people from voting?

Likethumb_up16

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Simnsays

4 mesi fa

Oh they will if they can... They've already made it clear what they think of the citizens.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LeoMarius

4 mesi fa

Republicans are incensed when individuals commit crimes, but are fine with the state government committing a crime against voters.

This is a clear violation of the 24th Amendment.

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

jamesf1

4 mesi fa

Same as buying votes. But who cares in the end as long as you win right.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LeoMarius

4 mesi fa

Preventing people from voting using fines is a poll tax, forbidden by the 24th Amendment.

Likethumb_up15

Linklink

Segnalaflag

yousaypotato

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Poll taxes are illegal. This was a poll tax, designed to disenfranchise after the courts ruled in favor of the former offenders. But in Trump's America, the law doesn't mean anything unless it's abused by the cult leader and his stooges.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Simnsays

4 mesi fa

Not sure how helping to *uphold the wishes of the voters* equals buying votes.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

e-grunt

4 mesi fa

And the Right will go on b i t c h i n g , but I thought the principle of one man paying the price for another man's sins was a thing with them?

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LeoMarius

4 mesi fa

These so called Christians don't read the Bible, except to skim for parts where they can condemn gay people.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Simnsays

4 mesi fa

Their so called principles are mutable... they apply when they benefit them.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

mywpweb

4 mesi fa

"mutable" great choice of words. As in "Lindsey Graham's notion of keeping his word is infinitely mutable."

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

Beautifully said. Thank you.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

OrangeBrown2

4 mesi fa

Thank you Mike Bloomberg! Another urgent and critical item is helping educate first time vote-by-mail voters. Short videos flooding social media and broadcast/cabal TV.

How ‘naked ballots’ in Pennsylvania could cost Joe Biden the election
“The state Supreme Court in PA, a critical battleground state that’s seen as increasingly likely to determine who wins the White House, last week ordered officials to throw out ‘naked ballots’ — mail ballots that arrive w/o inner ‘secrecy envelopes.’”
https://www.inquirer.com/politics/election/pennsylvania-naked-ballots-supreme-court-philadelphia-20200921.html

In addition to people not putting their ballots in the inner envelope, they may forget or not know to sign the mailing envelope, and/or mark the ballot incorrectly. The above link to the Philadelphia Enquirer contains all details.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

jamesf1

4 mesi fa

Wow talk about being desperate!
So sex offenders and drug dealers help pick your leader?

Likethumb_up1
Linklink

Segnalaflag

VLC

4 mesi fa

Why not? That's what many current Trump supporters are.

Likethumb_up4
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Dave in Oregon

4 mesi fa

Sex offenders were not included. Try to learns some basic facts.

Trump is a would be felon. The only reason he's not in prison right now is that one of the felonies he committed, a campaign finance violation to influence the election, allowed him to steal office. Most Alaska Republicans voted to re-elect former Republican Senator Ted Stevens a week after he was convicted of six felonies, so spare us the hypocrisy.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Your game is Paused

4 mesi fa

Good use of excess millions in this case. But too much money in the hands of the one-percenters spells disaster for our Democracy.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ez1947

4 mesi fa

Bravo Mike. Not only good for this election but very good for the people who are trying to get their lives back on a good track.

Likethumb_up14

Linklink

Segnalaflag

e-grunt

4 mesi fa

Why not? Trump and most of his administration are guilty of multiple felonious acts, ... known or unknown to the public.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Sartoris Marshall

4 mesi fa

What a wonderful use of a fortune. Restoring the right to vote to those who are being singled out and specifically targeted for voter suppression.
Right wing minority rule is in danger and the republicans are doing everything possible to stay in power.
The people of Florida - you know, the people who live and work with these felons - voted to restore the right to vote and the republican state government actively subverted the popular vote.
Good on Bloomberg and hopefully tens of millions more is raised for this Democracy In Action.

Likethumb_up13

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LeanderLil

4 mesi fa

Wish Mr. Bloomberg could spare some millions to defeat Mitch McConnell too! Moscow Mitch and and Moscow's Bitch (Trump) both need to be defeated this November. Very pleased that former inmates are getting help with their 'pole tax'.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

bobnunny

4 mesi fa

What an idiot! These are FELONS, not some kid caught with a joint. And it is THEIR fine to pay. So, if I were to pay the fine of someone that just robbed your house, how would you feel? Just another attempt to contaminate the voting process. Felons should be allowed to vote once they've paid their sentence, their fine, restitution, and their probation. After that you are welcome to rejoin the country electorate. Until then, you still have a debt to pay. And Bloomberg is just polluting the system with his money. It shouldn't be allowed.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

BridgeWatcher NYC

4 mesi fa

Womp womp womp. Poor baby! What did that mean Constitution ever do to you?

These are felons, yes, who have served their sentences and gotten back their constitutional rights to vote.

Any "fines" that the state imposes to keep them from getting their c is an illegal and immoral "poll tax" that's designed specifically to keep people from exercising their constitutional rights.

Soon enough those fines will be declared, appropriately, unconstitutional ad illegal.

Meantime, let's get 'em paid and give back their rights to the folks who were immorally deprived of the chance to exercise those voting rights.

Likethumb_up17
Linklink

Segnalaflag

tonyjiangxun%40gmail.com

4 mesi fa

They have served their sentence and are otherwise eligible.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Sartoris Marshall

4 mesi fa

yeah! the RULE OF LAW must be followed!!!
I mean, imagine if we let presidents ignore subpoenas or not answer congressional inquiries????
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?????
idiot.
the people of Florida voted to restore the right to vote to those who had served their sentences. the republicans are using just another voter suppression tactic to continue their rule by minority.

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

ItisaBeautifulWorldofStocks

4 mesi fa

This is your DemoKKKrat party #VotesForFelons #BurnDownCities #DefundThePolice #PAidhealthInsuranceforIllegals #FreeCollegeForIllegals #AbortBlackBabies. This goes over well in anarchist cities only controlled by effete white elites, which cities are now defunded, NYC, Portland, Seattle, probably DC, Chicago, LA. All Shipholes. Land of the DimoKKKrats/

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

BridgeWatcher NYC

4 mesi fa

Wow, those scary Democrats are really getting to your mental state?

Me, I'm a fan of #PartyOfScience. The guys who believe in the germ theory of disease. #AmericaForAmericans, who believe that America is a free and independent sovereign nation, not a subsidiary of Russia. #FreedomAndJusticeForAll, not just old White guys.

And so on...

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

pas.argenio

4 mesi fa

Bridge, yup, he must have DemoDerangement syndrome... better get that checked!

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ampmb_Easton

4 mesi fa

Spam faster

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Dave in Oregon

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Illegal aliens already get free health care. Do you think Trump was paying for health insurance for the ones he employed? They just go to the ER and the cost is passed on to the rest of us.

There's no such thing as "free college" and no such thing has been proposed. We pay for it with our taxes. I attended Catholic schools grades 1-12, but the public school kindergarten I attended certainly wasn't "free" even though there was no upfront cost. My parents paid property taxes and I've been paying property taxes for decades even though I have no children. I've paid for that "free" kindergarten many times over. "Free" college is no different. The fact that "illegals" who were brought here as young children may be able to get a college education without an upfront cost doesn't mean they're getting it for "free" either.

The KKK endorsed Trump. He praises White nationalists and celebrates confederate traitors.

Portland, where I live, is not "burning down." The few dozen so-called "anarchists" are not supported by Democrats. We know that most of those arrested during the riots after Trump stole office didn't even vote.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

Income taxes for all

4 mesi fa

The total fines owed were near a billion dollars. Better keep at the fundraising.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

This article specifically states that the fines being paid are about $1500 or less to already registered voters who are being denied the right to vote because they can't afford to pay the fines (poll tax in costume)

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Income taxes for all

4 mesi fa

Thanks, Lucy. Total fines owed the state from felon sentencing was near a billion bucks. A poll tax would be if non felons were charged to vote. Non felons vote for free. The cash goes towards court workers salaries. Why the hate for court workers?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

It's not the court workers we hate, it's the legislature for instituting it and the Courts for upholding it is against the will of the people who voted for the restoration of their rights.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Income taxes for all

4 mesi fa

Agree, Lucy. We thought the amendment meant once they were released from prison they would get their voting rights restored without a hearing. Now it means once released from prison and sentencing fines are paid, voting rights will be restored.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

PoliticalDawg

4 mesi fa

6 weeks: time for a reminder to register [or check your voter status], request your mail in ballot, donate, volunteer....

Then in November vote Blue no matter who...

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

billnutt

4 mesi fa

I almost wish it wasn't quite so targeted to Biden voters.

This initiative is definitely the right thing to do, to counteract the efforts by the legislature and the governor to thwart the will of the people as determined by the referendum. But making it so focused on the groups likely to be Biden supporters make this seem more partisan than it should be.

Don't get me wrong - if it works, I'll be delighted. But I'd be even happier if this move had been presented as benefitting ALL of the disenfranchised felons.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Kate June

4 mesi fa

Bloomberg is a partisan donor who is doing this to encourage more Biden voters. Why is this so surprising to you? If a Republican donor wants to do the same for Florida's white evangelical felons, they can go for it.

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

billnutt

4 mesi fa

I'm not surprised, and I apologize if I wasn't clear. It's just that I can see the Republicans spinning this as an attempt to "buy votes." (That spin is already happening, by the way.)

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MaryGJ

4 mesi fa

Bloomberg is funding a non-partisan group -- the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition will use the funding to clear anyone without regard to party.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

bobnunny

4 mesi fa

I live in Florida and can tell you he didn't do it to thwart the will of the voters, but to ensure they've paid their sentence, their fine, restitution, and their probation first.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Sirsmom

4 mesi fa

I live in Florida and know quite well that DeSantis and the legislature were trying to suppress voting. They could have put people on a payment plan as the judge suggested ,but that wasn't good enough. Wait and see what they'll do next to keep suppressing the vote.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

Probation was not a criteria of the amendment. Their sentence had to be completed in full to be even eligible for reinstatement. These fines were levied as an afterthought.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

MaryGJ

4 mesi fa

The state doesn't actually manage your voter registration, that's up to the counties...and the courts don't report fines and fees to the state...so it's not a huge surprise that Florida doesn't have the information.

People should know (or be able to find out) where they were convicted, and get the money owed from the clerks of the courts. For each person wanting to get cleared, that should be a small number of counties.

Right?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Reita Anderson

4 mesi fa

When they pay the fine, get a receipt.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MaryGJ

4 mesi fa

Absolutely -- one that shows the balance due = $0.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Konny2017

4 mesi fa

Good to hear that Bloomberg is supporting what LeBron James has begun earlier this year.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Our_Kakistocracy

4 mesi fa

Terrific news! I hope there is also an organized effort to contact each felon whose debt is now off the books to make sure he or she knows HOW to vote successfully in the upcoming election. Jim Crow disenfranchisement efforts are alive and well in Republican America and need to be crushed!

Many thanks to Michael Bloomberg and the other contributors he organized and rallied!

VOTE EARLY! A STRAIGHT BLUE TICKET NOV 3

Likethumb_up13

Linklink

Segnalaflag

concerned_citizen100

4 mesi fa

I think this is a good focused and targeted strategy for getting more Biden votes. I do think spending money on TV and online ads is wasteful since most people tune them out and they cost too much (especially TV ads during prime time).

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Berry Nice

4 mesi fa

I'm torn. I would normally agree with you about ads - I despise "I approve this message" bs - but Democrats have been given TV GOLD if the Democratic Party can use it and wield it right, like The Lincoln Project has in a few of their recent ads.

With their record breaking fundraising efforts, DNC, Get Mitch or Die Trying, etc., they have the money to flood these markets with several different ads of lying/hypocrisy examples for each politician. In there own words, no one else's. These need to be super simple, direct and to the point - no fluff.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Mark%20Yates

4 mesi fa

What a tool. Those fines are part of the sentences for their crimes and he's just gonna step in and absolve them of those penalties? Look, if you can't do the time then don't do the crime. Bloomberg is a moron.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

cclmm57

4 mesi fa

Yeah, tell that to Roger Stone and Mike Flynn—now a tool of Qanon.

Likethumb_up20

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ThatsPsychoTalk

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

@Mark
You poor racist Boogaloo. These guys have done their time and should be allowed to vote.

Likethumb_up15

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MaryGJ

4 mesi fa

But if someone's parent or spouse could afford to pay the fines and restore their ability to vote, that would be okay with you?

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

i certainly hope so.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

LinNorma

4 mesi fa

the crazy thing is that the State of Florida cannot even say exactly what these felons owe, but still expect them to pay "it".

Likethumb_up19

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MaryGJ

4 mesi fa

The courts know...and each person should be able to identify the relevant courts.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Sirsmom

4 mesi fa

Yet, it took a professional organization 6 month to track down the "fine" amount for only about 15 former felons.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

I'm inclined to think these "fines" were invented by the GOP after the fact.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

mywpweb

4 mesi fa

I think that's exactly what happened after the voting restoration law actually passed.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Demsvote2022

4 mesi fa

Glad to have contributed to the fund. What infuriates me is that Trump and his white collar criminals like Manafort and Stone have done far more damage to this county than what these ex- felons have ever done.

Likethumb_up17

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Mark%20Yates

4 mesi fa

Those fines are part of the sentences for their crimes. You can't just step in and absolve them of those penalties? If you can't do the time then don't do the crime.
And how do you know all the damages done by these felons? More ridiculous emotionally driven logic from the left.
Instead of condemning all of the murder, violence, looting, vandalism, assault, harassment and other real-world crimes that the left is guilty of the left would rather just post stupid memes calling Trump a racist and assume they now have the moral high ground. Brain dead intellectual inbreds.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

TimNYC

4 mesi fa

Can you tell them what their fines and penalties are? How to get a job now?

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MaryGJ

4 mesi fa

The only reason former felons will not have to pay the money is because of the decision to use it for disenfranchisement.

Otherwise, they would be able to vote...and still have the financial penalties in place.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Alicia65

4 mesi fa

No one is absolving them of their penalties . The people of the State of Florida approved a ballot measure to the convicted felons vote and Florida Repubs blocked it through a court case headed by conservative (partisan) judges. This clears the way for them to vote, which Florida law allows.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

Moonsong51

4 mesi fa

Sounds good. Next problem - Florida's voter registration deadline is Oct 5th, which is less than 2 weeks from now. Sure hope Florida's system will process the payments timely/accurately so this can actually make a difference.

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

js23571113

4 mesi fa

Haha, Charlie Brown! Fooled you again!

Seriously, I am sorry to tell you this, but Florida claims that it is unable to accurately calculate how much former felons owe, is unwilling to hire the personnel to figure it out, and will not restore voting rights until they get around to it.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Mark%20Yates

4 mesi fa

If you can't do the time, then don't do the crime. Another example of emotionally driven logic from the left.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

TimNYC

4 mesi fa

Your response isn’t just reactionary?

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MaryGJ

4 mesi fa

They did the time...this is the equivalent of debtors' prison.

...and if they had affluent parents or spouses, they would be clear.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

js23571113

4 mesi fa

If you can't do the time, then don't do the crime.

They've done the time.

Now they want to recover the one right that any free country gives its citizens: the right to vote.

Another example of emotionally driven logic from the left.

My only emotion is pity for you, who cannot even read a simple sentence or consider that your opinion might be wrong.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MaryGJ

4 mesi fa

It's probably a smaller issue on a person-by-person basis: find out which county or court assessed the fines, and ask them.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

js23571113

4 mesi fa

Mary, Florida's legal system was designed by a rabid raccoon, implemented by a syphilitic plumber, and is overseen by people like Barbara Lagoa. So I don't know the practicalities, but I do know that people smarter than you or me are working on it and they don't see a way forward yet.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MaryGJ

4 mesi fa

As long as they are registered, and the fines & fees are paid, they can vote.

I believe they can register before they pay, and they can pay before they vote.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Kate June

4 mesi fa

The article indicated that the targeted voters are those who are already registered to vote, but are being prevented from voting because they owe a fine. So, the voter registration deadline isn't the issue.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

js23571113

4 mesi fa

This is really good, and congratulations to Michael Bloomberg for joining FFRC [1] in ending this unjust burden on people who have paid their debt to society--just not the courts.

But Florida is way ahead of them! In most cases, Florida is unable or unwilling to calculate just how much former felons owe in court and restitution costs [2]. So, presto! They can keep them off the rolls!

Way to go, likely Supreme Court nominee Barbara Lagoa! By this act of corruption, you have earned a chance to pretend to apply the law at the very highest levels.

If you needed any more proof that the US electoral *and legal* system is broken beyond repair, look no further than Florida

1. https://floridarrc.com/
2. https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2020/07/supreme-court-florida-felons-poll-tax.html

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LinNorma

4 mesi fa

why are some cubans so awful? They are like the losers of the Civil War.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Mark%20Yates

4 mesi fa

Uh....they're felons. If you can't handle the consequences then don't commit the crimes. It's not complicated.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

TimNYC

4 mesi fa

Wow! That’s still not a good answer!!

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LewaNiViti

4 mesi fa

I guess he doesn't know the best words so he's at a loss for new ones.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

CBCarter1999

4 mesi fa

I say the only penalty for any crime should be execution. That would clear this whole thing up. Would also free up all the tax dollars that go to prisons, which we could use for other social welfare programs! Free money for everyone!

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

So if your son/daughter has a car accident and they kill someone you want them to be executed? That's a little drastic don't you think? If you drove home drunk and hit someone and blithely drove home because your fogged mind didn't register it, then you are arrested for manslaughter and convicted, you believe that you, yourself should be executed? How about if you have a medical emergency driving and the same thing happens, do you believe that you should be executed?

Likethumb_up
Linklink

Segnalaflag

CBCarter1999

4 mesi fa

Sorry, should have put the /s on there.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

js23571113

4 mesi fa

Michael Flynn is a felon. Roger Stone is a felon. The president's former lawyer, his campaign chair and a vice-chair are felons. Another top Trump adviser, Steve Bannon, is awaiting trial in a massive fraud scheme that preyed on the little people of the Republican Party.

The Republican Party lionizes them. Stone won't spend a day in jail, nor likely will Flynn. There are convicted or confessed criminals all around Trump, and it's not a problem for Republicans.

And all of these men are rich enough to move to another state where felons are allowed to vote.

But someone who was caught with just enough cocaine for one hit gets sent away to prison for years and then is prevented in voting for life. 750,000 Floridians are barred from voting, many for minor drug crimes.

This isn't a question of facing consequences. This is a question of the Republican Party using the exact same tactics as the Jim Crow racists did after the Civil War to keep African Americans from voting.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

WonderWmn212

4 mesi fa

For a group that's been around since 2003 (and formalized in 2011), the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition has a remarkably poor website. I expected to see some statistics on their success - but there's nothing. I hope this money will help people, but I find it hard to believe that anything can be done at this late date to help registered voters.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

js23571113

4 mesi fa

If they fail, the fault will not be with FFRC. The state of Florida is unable or unwilling to calculate the debt they claim former felons owe [1], thereby making it impossible to restore voting rights even if we do go their bail. It's the perfect Catch-22!

Please don't beat up on the people who are doing their best to fix what's wrong. There are a lot of worse people to direct your ire against.

1. See https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2020/07/supreme-court-florida-felons-poll-tax.html

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

WonderWmn212

4 mesi fa

It's not ire and I'm not beating anyone up. I personally would not feel comfortable donating to an organization that doesn't have any measurable results. (I donate to a couple of different organizations and I enjoy getting regular newsletters with success stories.) It may be a PR/marketing problem or it may be that FRRC does not have any success stories. Either way, it's worth asking if this is the correct organization to fight this poll tax.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

js23571113

4 mesi fa

How can FFRC have success stories if the state of Florida will not accept payment?

At any rate:

> Bloomberg's fundraising, in addition to $5 million from the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition, has now paid off monetary obligations for 32,000 felons in Florida just before Election Day. https://www.axios.com/bloomberg-michael-felon-voting-florida-2020-7b8122a3-cbfc-4ea6-be59-ae4cd73e0cae.html

Sounds great, except there are 750,000 people disenfranchised by Florida's unjust laws: https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/paulmcleod/court-upholds-florida-ex-felons-voting-law-poll-tax

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Demsvote2022

4 mesi fa

We will see. Certainly the Republicans in the state will do all they can to keep them from voting in 2020. But DeSantis will be up for reelection in 2022 as will Marco Rubio. If the returning citizens can help get rid of those two, it will be worth it.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Long Islander

4 mesi fa

Question: if the state's records are a fiasco, as one comment states, how can they find out how much money they owe?

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

js23571113

4 mesi fa

That's a feature, not a bug.

And the appeals court deliberately left it in, which is why Barbara Lagoa is a potential USSC nominee.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Donna Lucy

4 mesi fa

And if they think they've paid the right amount and it turns out they haven't, and then try to vote, hey presto, that's a felony!

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

js23571113

4 mesi fa

Wow! You really know this game!

It's called Republicans are Cheaters!

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MaryGJ

4 mesi fa

They need to check with the counties and the courts where they were convicted.

Likethumb_up2
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Joel Stegner

4 mesi fa

Perfect way to eliminate the modern equivalent of the Jim Crow poll tax. Racist Republicans racially profile Black men for offenses where white men face no consequences, and make it easy for millionaire crooks to get back their voting. However about for big dollars crimes committed by the already rich, they are forced to pay restitution before they can vote. Call it the Trump rule.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

dankray45

4 mesi fa

Great to have those voters... we can get rid of the Dumpster this year, DeStupid and Rubio in two years. Four years, and we can get rid of our elected criminal, Scott.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

js23571113

4 mesi fa

Not happening. Florida is unable and/or unwilling to calculate how much former felons owe, thereby creating the perfect Catch-22 to continue to deny them the right to vote.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

joanamc2

4 mesi fa

Yay! I was hoping someone would do this. I sure hope we get a Biden blow out in FL, as the lying, cheating, hypocritical Republicans are trying to stack the Supremes in case the election decision comes down to them.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Voracious reader

4 mesi fa

Once all fees and fines are paid off, former prisoners need to make sure they are registered and able to vote, and have ways to get there. MLK's efforts to get out the vote included getting people to the polls, etc.

We can't rest until these people have cast their ballots and had them legally counted.

Remember what happened after the hanging chad debacle in Florida? As I remember it, Florida did away with paper ballots, or anything to prove someone voted.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

greylynn

4 mesi fa

Not entirely true (I lived in Florida for 40 years - moved 2 years ago). Some counties in Florida use paper ballots that are then scanned. The paper ballots are available for recount if needed.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MaryGJ

4 mesi fa

This program is for registered voters. I'm sure others can go ahead and register ASAP and then apply.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

They have not done away with paper ballots. As you say the paper ballots are scanned, and stored for recount use.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

suruha

4 mesi fa

If the Republicans are going to demand a poll tax, they can't complain about how those taxes are paid! They cannot have it both ways!

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Bruce735

4 mesi fa

It bears repeating something I learned during Bush v. Gore: According to Florida law, the legislature (Republican, in this case) is free to give all the state's electoral votes to Trump, no matter what the outcome of the popular vote.

Would they actually do it? They promised they would if the Supreme Court had voted against Bush. They're Republicans, so I see no reason they wouldn't do it.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Snoop Molly

4 mesi fa

“Different people may give for different reasons but we are in this for one reason and that reason is to place people over politics."

Unfortunately, Republicon governors and Republicon-controlled state legislatures put politics over people. This is the reason Republicon controlled states are attempting to suppress voters who are Democrats or lean Democrat. This is the reason our democracy is in jeopardy. We can end voter suppression and save our democracy by voting blue from the top to the bottom of the ballot.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

freedom is not free 66

4 mesi fa

Maybe the thing to do is all dems re-register as repubs. An added benefit would to pick the worse candidate in primaries.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

I think that's what the GOP did in '16, but thanks to Russia's interference Trump won the EC..

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

freedom is not free 66

4 mesi fa

Then it would be only right to return the favor

Likethumb_up
Linklink

Segnalaflag

tired-of-idiots

4 mesi fa

Why is Bloomberg "raising" anything? He could personally pay off every fine himself with significantly less than 1% of his wealth.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

i imagine he used the "matching donor" gimmick. That way whatever form it takes it at least doubles the "gift and get others to buy into it. It's good PR.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

M. P. Brown

4 mesi fa

I lived in Florida and voted on this amendment. Nowhere in the amendment was a 'poll tax' ever mentioned. This is the Republicans way of suppressing the vote!! Will anyone in that party ever wake up and become an American first and put party second? I am ashamed of anyone in my family who is registered Republican at this time!!! Lincoln must be constantly rolling in his grave!!!

Likethumb_up15

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Ipse_Dixit

4 mesi fa

Prediction: Republican clerks slow walk poll tax payments by black and Latino felons so none are registered in time to vote. Nothing matters to Republicans but power.

Likethumb_up14

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LindaTX

4 mesi fa

According to the article, the money will pay the fines of those already registered to vote.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

We ate an elephant

4 mesi fa

It speaks volumes that only one party is fighting as hard as possible to deprive as many people as possible of their right to vote.

Likethumb_up19
Linklink

Segnalaflag

ez1947

4 mesi fa

Yeah, the party that the most people really hate.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

E Lukacs

4 mesi fa

Thank you Mr Bloomberg for the financial help, but more importantly being true to your word of helping Dems no matter who received the nomination.

Likethumb_up17

Linklink

Segnalaflag

urnumbersix

4 mesi fa

Good!

{sigh} The Conservatives' playbook never changes.

This is a POLL TAX, right out of "even before the Jim Crow days."

Don't take my word for it -- watch the movie "13th" if you have any doubts about it and see for yourself. (If you don't have Netflix, you can watch it on YouTube, for free.)

= Old, lame, sad, racist and dumb.
Fooling no one.

Glad they're finding a work-around -- hope it works out in time for Nov. Elections. After then, let's act to END this foolishness -- once and for all!

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

The Flyover Heads

4 mesi fa

"Raised?" Seems like that much could have fallen out of his pants pocket.

You go, Mike!

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Normal Person

4 mesi fa

Vote Trump: Make HATE Great Again!!

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

aphea22

4 mesi fa

BLESS HIM!!

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

horsefeathers

4 mesi fa

Funny, I always thought that a felony conviction and a prison sentence was less about retribution and more about rehabilitation. Surely, no one can believe that after serving one's sentence one should also have to pay for the privilege of doing so? If you are released from prison and met the terms of parole, you have met the burden of your debt to society. The goal of any sane administration is to make every effort to help citizens get back on their feet not tell them they are still not entitled to citizenship.

Likethumb_up28

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Howie Klum

4 mesi fa

This is a voting poll tax, a payment which is a precondition to voting, which is used to disenfranchise the impoverished and minorities.

Likethumb_up18

Linklink

Segnalaflag

sspaddock

4 mesi fa

Thank you Mike Bloomberg! This is great news.

Likethumb_up23

Linklink

Segnalaflag

58Frank

4 mesi fa

Congrats to murderers and rapists everywhere ! #Biden2020

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

J3000GT

4 mesi fa

Did you read the article? Maybe you should start doing that before posting so you don't look so stupid.

Murderers and people convicted of sexual offenses can't qualify for this program.

Likethumb_up29

Linklink

Segnalaflag

freedom is not free 66

4 mesi fa

Hes a trumper. Of course he can't read

Likethumb_up2
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Master Chief III

4 mesi fa

Repeal the second amendment! We WILL take away all your guns and you'll be a powerless weakling.
Did I trigger you?

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Ipse_Dixit

4 mesi fa

Russian troll alert.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

We ate an elephant

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

.....

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

We ate an elephant

4 mesi fa

Learn to read dumb aß!
Murderers and people convicted of felony sexual assault aren't eligible.
Maybe if you got an education, before commenting....?

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

DapperDanMan

4 mesi fa

Grateful for Bloomberg largesse in committing to spending 2/10% of his 50 billion dollars on removing the Orange Stain from office.

Wonder what it would take to have him chip in a billion.

Sucks that our democracy depends upon the whims of billionaires.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Normal Person

4 mesi fa

The Democrats should have a plank that advocates appointing justices who will repeal the Citizens United decision.

One "Man," One Vote! Corporations, Unions, Associations, Business entities, etc, etc, are not "Citizens" and should not be able to influence elections through funding candidates or PACs.

If you want to influence an election--go knock on doors and VOTE.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

We ate an elephant

4 mesi fa

He could have spent nothing.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

The King in the North

4 mesi fa

The Bloomberg effort ... is narrowly focused only on Black and Hispanic voters who are already registered to vote and whose debts are less than $1,500.

Does he realize that Trump is narrowly out-polling Biden amongst Hispanics in Florida?

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Clay C

4 mesi fa

Perhaps he is focusing on those registered as Democrats.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

We ate an elephant

4 mesi fa

Cubans have been Republican for decades. They won't flip.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Betty T

4 mesi fa

I know why this is but I don't understand it. Which party chips away at your rights? Not the Democrats.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

Just goes to prove that this effort is non-partisan, as non-partisan as anything can be in this polarized election.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

GadflySC

4 mesi fa

If someone is convicted of a crime - felony or otherwise - and serves their time, they should be able to vote, period. No fines or other forms of voter suppression. If the future felons in the Trump administration can vote, felons who have served their sentence should be able to vote.

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

BlueinTX

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

I think that's great. Let's hope they get themselves registered in time, too. I don't think I've ever heard of any "compassionate conservative" Republicans making a gesture like this.

Likethumb_up15

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MarilynBF

4 mesi fa

Above it says they are already registered.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Midtown Mack

4 mesi fa

This is of course a great idea. But, I'm afraid it's a bit late. Surely there is some bureaucracy involved with paying the fines and getting the data loaded that documents that the former criminal is qualified to register. In the conservative counties of Florida I would bet that the department heads in the agencies that oversee payments of fines and voter registration have the means and motivation to gum up the works enough to diminish the 2020 impact of this project.

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Mr Heisenberg

4 mesi fa

True, but news of Republicans throwing sand in the gears to hurt black people will motivate at least as many other voters to stand against them. That also will further damage the Republican brand for decades to come.

Likethumb_up14

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Keenie

4 mesi fa

FWIW, I believe there are many thousands of prior felons who have already registered, prior to the ruling on fines and fees. These folks were prepared to vote, but the ruling put them in a bad spot; if they voted without paying the fines or paying the wrong amount (which are notoriously difficult for them to determine because the state's records are a fiasco), they were liable to be charged with a felony. Hopefully, this effort will give as many as possible who are already registered to know before they vote that they are safe to do so.

Likethumb_up13

Linklink

Segnalaflag

seas99

4 mesi fa

modern day poll tax and just as racist.

Likethumb_up43

Linklink

Segnalaflag

BlueinTX

4 mesi fa

It is. But it's backfired on the Florida Republicans this time. They probably didn't envision anyone paying off $16 million in fines.

Likethumb_up30

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LONGAGO

4 mesi fa

Don't underestimate DeSantis and company, who will surely come up with yet another way to block the re-enfranchisement of these ex-felons. But, props to Mike Bloomberg and his group for fighting the good fight!

Likethumb_up11

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Stop_Shooting_Us

4 mesi fa

Democrats wake up! By their actions the Republicans have shown they would literally do anything to take and keep power. Including one rule for Democrats and another for Republicans. So any talk of working across the isle is really stupid. Democrats are so great at unilateral disarmament. Republicans look at us and say oh look! It's like taking candy from babies. Those Democrat nitwits are clueless.

Wake the hell up! In my former home State of Florida, people won't believe this, but there are more Democrats than Republicans. YET Republicans have controlled the legislature for over 20 years. What the hell is wrong with you, Democrats? We need to recognize that we are literally at war for the the life of our country. Wake up damn it!

My wife told me today, Henry if Trump somehow finds a way to stay in office, we are done here. It has been hell for my family. We moved here from Sydney Australia in January 2017. So I have been exposed to all the mayhem created by Trump. I had no idea how exhausted I would be to live in Trump America. I am very tired.

Likethumb_up23

Linklink

Segnalaflag

2dogs7cats

4 mesi fa

Please take us with you.

Likethumb_up13
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Bob Ekstam

4 mesi fa

I agree with your point. The time for moral victories and standing on the high ground is done. The repcons only care about one thing: power. Vote them out!

Likethumb_up13

Linklink

Segnalaflag

horsefeathers

4 mesi fa

I'm a third generation Canadian and I'm exhausted. I married a Brit a few years ago and we were forced to weigh a potential hard-Brexit when choosing either England or Canada as a home. It's like flying with a drunk pilot; you want to go to sleep but someone has to keep an eye on the drunk.

I wish we had opted for New Zealand. They seem like such nice, sensible, intelligent and cordial people and it shows in who they chose as a Prime Minister.

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Stop_Shooting_Us

4 mesi fa

Took my family to Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington, Rotorua and Papatoetoe. New Zealanders are very cool. It was a most relaxing 4 weeks after the hustle of Sydney. We talk about potentially moving there. The only drawback is there is just one internet cable from Australia to New Zealand. There is talk of adding 4 more. Investigate the cost of broadband internet before you decide to move, if you do. We received daily log on access from our hotels. I was not used to that.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Eightiron

4 mesi fa

Not surprising that felons love the democrat party.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

seas99

4 mesi fa

last time i Checked Trump, his family, flynn, and others were not Democrats.
Careful, your racism is showing.

Likethumb_up22

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Eightiron

4 mesi fa

But they aren't felons. Careful, your hate is showing. Sad really.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

seas99

4 mesi fa

you forgot to say "yet." they are not felons yet.
go to your KKK party now.

Likethumb_up11
Linklink

Segnalaflag

seas99

4 mesi fa

and it's hilarious you stand with Racist Trump and his babies in cages admin, but have the gall to say dems are full of hate. Have you seen your fellow billybobs marching with the nazi flag....oh does Alex Jones not show you your hate? oh wait your hate is okay b/c "white is right"....right?

Likethumb_up18

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Bob Ekstam

4 mesi fa

Stone, Manafort, Gates, Cohen, Flynn, Nader, Papadopolis, and stay tuned for others coming to a courtroom near you! Only cult followers would see nothing in this criminal enterprise pretending to be an administration.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Stop_Shooting_Us

4 mesi fa

Hey Eight, you dimwitted fool. Have you taken a look at all the criminals in your corrupt party? Starting with the bloated piece of offal in the White House, who I am sure will end up in Rikers. Stop talking.

Likethumb_up17

Linklink

Segnalaflag

seas99

4 mesi fa

Eightiron is nestled away in his country club white tower proclaiming the virtues of being white.

Likethumb_up11
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Bob Ekstam

4 mesi fa

So does that include trump cabinet members, campaign chair and other campaign officials who have been convicted of felonies? “There are none so blind as those who will not see.”

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

Choose Reason

4 mesi fa

Wonderful news! Thank you, Mike.

Likethumb_up13

Linklink

Segnalaflag

janetka

4 mesi fa

YAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAYYYYYYYY!
Ha Ha Ha Florida bigots.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jimbo LW-FL

4 mesi fa

Last week after the $100 million FL announcement, I wrote to the Bloomberg Foundation calling for exactly this strategy.
I thought he should use $60 million of that total so that perhaps 80,000 might be cleared, but I will take the $16 million/32,000 number. For now.
Maybe that number will be enough to lock down Florida.
I also believe, as I said in the letter, that it will energize a movement that will result in more people and organizations getting involved and therefore boosting that number.
By the way, for those of you not from here (FL), the ludicrous side story is that in many cases the courts/authorities have no idea how much is still owed in many of the cases. That's how well things are run down here.
Look in on the pathetic nature of our pandemic unemployment response if you want a good laugh.

Likethumb_up15

Linklink

Segnalaflag

PACTreasurer

4 mesi fa

National Farmers Union reported one small farmer received a "Stimulus check", for exactly "7 Cents". The mass of farm stimulus went directly to corporate 'farms', over 90%. The idea of farm subsidies by Congress, was a 'cheap food policy', underwritten by the taxpayers, so that food purchases were not going to use up a large part of the consumer's disposable income, in turn, making a large manufacturing economic system. It worked, at first. Now, however, massive gluts of over production of every conceivable crop and livestock, have created 'captive markets'. These are small farmers, who, out financed by corporations, can no longer compete. And it's a fake economic system in agriculture. And is your food really cheaper? We dumped an entire years potato production this year. Billions of pounds. Every crop was buried to a great degree. Hows that grocery bill? The Public takes over total finance of the elections, what's called "Public Finance" or that food bill gets real, real ugly. You cannot allow Corporate PACS to pay for 99% of elections and expect to be 'represented'. It would cost you $4 dollars a year, a far smaller billing that what's coming.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

J3000GT

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Groceries have gotten ridiculously expensive in the last year, that's for sure.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

beachchic

4 mesi fa

The slim difference between Florida's convicted felons and Florida's Republican politicians is that the latter has not been caught.

Likethumb_up23

Linklink

Segnalaflag

GodHelpUsNow

4 mesi fa

Good job, Mr. Bloomberg. Keep the heat on this a $$ clown.

Likethumb_up17

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lisa Zeidner

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Excellent. Question to the writers:how is the group finding out the fines that people have to pay, so they can pay 'em in time to vote? I understood that this was one of the problems--that there was no way, really, for people to FIND OUT what they owed...

Likethumb_up7
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Balto Joseph

4 mesi fa

This is HUGE. Thank you Mike and don't stop now!

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Capriccio

4 mesi fa

Mr. Bloomberg - Thank you from a Florida resident who voted for the amendment, along with 64% of the other voters in the 2018 election. We too have made a donation (not as large as yours unfortunately) to the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition.

Likethumb_up17

Linklink

Segnalaflag

PACTreasurer

4 mesi fa

Smartest thing Bloomberg did since he got rich.
The Corporate PACS of course, will be fuming and likely try to get Florida's state house, which they own, to pass something else to undo Bloomberg's work.
Don't think the Corporate PACS have time right now.
But I'd give to that fund before I'd give to any candidate.
The criminal 'paid for the crime' by loss of freedom. The debt to society, is paid. The fines are a mere tax. And those fines are clearly what they are.
If you vote, you would still owe the fine. The debt to society was paid, the debt to courts and their officers would still be there. In the old days, you just lost your time, the courts couldn't keep former felons from voting. And they didn't want to, because they went by a constitution.
But in Florida (which happens to be the best State in the USA in which to file bankruptcy, ask trump) those felons with greater debt (fake fines) might be better served to do a bankruptcy right off, just a thought.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

J3000GT

4 mesi fa

I don't think you can file bankruptcy on court fines.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

J M J 4

4 mesi fa

What does it say about democrats and their agenda that they need the felon demographic?

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

blue lakes

4 mesi fa

What does it say about republicans that they need to suppress the vote.

Likethumb_up22

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MLSbrooklyn

4 mesi fa

Trump needed pardons to quiet HIS felons!

Likethumb_up17

Linklink

Segnalaflag

GodHelpUsNow

4 mesi fa

What does your post say about a $$ clowns like you?

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

Richard_Schumacher

4 mesi fa

Is there a way to donate to Bloomberg's targeted effort, as opposed to the we-don't-care-who-you-might-vote-for FRRC?

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

YAPC

4 mesi fa

♫♫ This is how we take out the trash ♫♫
♫♫ Take out the trash.♫♫
♫♫ Take out the trash.♫♫
♫♫ This is how we take out the trash ♫♫
♫♫ In Florida by helping Mike Bloomberg! ♫♫

Likethumb_up11

Linklink

Segnalaflag

katherine 2

4 mesi fa

Bloomberg has always been someone who raises people up unlike trump who tears down and demeans so that he can appear strong.

Likethumb_up20

Linklink

Segnalaflag

xconservative

4 mesi fa

I love the pea brained Trumpies. It's totally OK for the Republicretins to impose a poll tax, but it's unethical for Bloomberg to ensure they can vote.

Likethumb_up29

Linklink

Segnalaflag

WaPo - lighten up on the rules

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

I have no problem with Bloomberg helping to pay these fines, which stand as poll taxes. I just hope the recipients are grateful enough to vote.

Before the Rs start screaming about vote buying, Munchin wants another $30B in farmer "subsidies". Subsidies my arse - dotard destroyed their market with tariffs and now has to buy them off with bribes. The same farmers who fly Trump 2020 flags and preach about liberal socialists are the first in line with their hands out for "subsidies".

Likethumb_up63

Linklink

Segnalaflag

blue lakes

4 mesi fa

Exactly, you see their Trump signs along all the rural hwys. None in the cities.

Likethumb_up30

Linklink

Segnalaflag

PACTreasurer

4 mesi fa

National Farmers Union reported one small farmer received a "Stimulus check", for exactly "7 Cents".
The mass of farm stimulus went directly to corporate 'farms', over 90%.
The idea of farm subsidies by Congress, was a 'cheap food policy', underwritten by the taxpayers, so that food purchases were not going to use up a large part of the consumer's disposable income, in turn, making a large manufacturing economic system.
It worked, at first.
Now, however, massive gluts of over production of every conceivable crop and livestock, have created 'captive markets'. These are small farmers, who, out financed by corporations, can no longer compete. And it's a fake economic system in agriculture.
And is your food really cheaper? We dumped an entire years potato production this year. Billions of pounds. Every crop was buried to a great degree.
Hows that grocery bill?
The Public takes over total finance of the elections, what's called "Public Finance" or that food bill gets real, real ugly. You cannot allow Corporate PACS to pay for 99% of elections and expect to be 'represented'.
It would cost you $4 dollars a year, a far smaller billing that what's coming.

Likethumb_up13

Linklink

Segnalaflag

SwedeInFinland

4 mesi fa

I just hope the recipients are grateful enough to vote.

It could of course be so that only the Republican-inclined felons end up actually going voting... but Bloomberg seems like nothing if not a hard-numbers-and-data guy, so if he decides to do it this way, it's probably good. Besides, the Republican schemers who dreamed this up in the first place are also nothing if not hard-numbers-and-data guys, and that is the best indicator of all.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

iGiant

4 mesi fa

This is an awesome initiative! They are giving aid to folks that need it and help democracy at the same time.

A question to republicans: how can democracy be helped if less people are voting? Never mind it was just a rhetorical question.

Likethumb_up21

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jimbo LW-FL

4 mesi fa

Another question to Republicans. When was the last time you saw a Democrat involved in voter suppression? When?
Oh, the answer is never.

That should tell you a lot about which party is interested in furthering (small d) democracy. Whereas the other one is throwing all its weight into tearing down our 240-year-old constitutional republic.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ms an d out

4 mesi fa

If the Pubs will do whatever it takes to cheat, the Dems need to do whatever it takes to make things right.

I hope the Pubs choke on the Bloomberg donation to enfranchise registered voters.

Sauce for the goose...

Likethumb_up18

Linklink

Segnalaflag

bookmanjb

4 mesi fa

I was just saying to my wife last night: Bloomberg should pay those fines since he's got so much money to spread around in Florida. He must have heard me. I take full credit.

Likethumb_up17

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Apt406

4 mesi fa

I was really annoyed by Bloombergs run for the presidency, but I have to admit I do admire that he is using his money now to offset hurdles put in place to obstruct democracy. Its sad that significant money is required to make this happen, but in the short term this is the only way. Lets tear down all these voter obstruction laws in 2021

Likethumb_up39

Linklink

Segnalaflag

more thoughts

4 mesi fa

Part of the resolution should be more than correcting causes like improper gerrymandering. It should involve felonies and jail time for elected officials responsible for inhibiting the right to vote!

Likethumb_up11

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Gray Grantham Jr

4 mesi fa

He isn't using his own money; he raised money from others. This is the equivalent of a cup of coffee for him. To me, this is why extreme wealth is so problematic. Bloomberg is getting kudos for what we do everyday when we give some money when we check-out at the grocery store.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

TopDownRambling

4 mesi fa

This is why I like Mike Bloomberg. This is one of the most intelligent injections to the election. We need to make sure that anyone with the right to vote has a chance to cast a ballot.

Florida's attempt to quiet this group of voters was poor and improper at best. Glad that philanthropists like Bloomberg saw it for what it was and then came up with a creative way to resolve it.

Kudos!

Likethumb_up17

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Decimius Magnus Ausonius

4 mesi fa

I'm of several minds here.

First, a person - any person - who has been in prison and is now trying to re-integrate with society will need support and guidance in doing so. There is little support available, and what guidance is available is often hostile and retributive. Sure, there are reprobates (there always are) but otherwise decent people make mistakes too. These people should be given a chance.

Second, the requirement to pay fines and costs may or may not constitute a "poll tax" on ex-cons. I leave that argument for others to hash out. But it should not, in my humble opinion, have any bearing on the right of a citizen to exercise his franchise. Once again in my humble opinion, to hold otherwise does smack of voter suppression.

Then there is Bloomberg's offer to pay these fees and penalties. That is his business and I will not say either way there. It's his money.

EXCEPT: If this is done to try to influence the election, by re-enfranchising a demographic which "votes 90 percent Democrat" then it is nothing short of vote buying.

I want these people fully re-integrated into society as productive, law abiding citizens, and that means returning to them the right to vote, no ands, ifs, or buts.

I also, for the record, want Trump, his lackeys, minions, enablers, and henchmen gone.

But stuffing the ballot box - by either side - is absolutely contrary to the operation of a free society and should not be allowed.

Mind you, I want these people to vote. What I question is Bloomberg's motivation.

Likethumb_up1
Linklink

Segnalaflag

sawasdee

4 mesi fa

rump is doing MUCH worse than any thing Bloomberg has even thought of.

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Stop_Shooting_Us

4 mesi fa

You conveniently left out the fact that 68% of Floridians voted to allow their fellow citizens to vote. Yakk abut vote buying all you wish. The people of Florida spoke very clearly. The rethugnican'ts tried once again to steal elections.

Likethumb_up16

Linklink

Segnalaflag

TopDownRambling

4 mesi fa

What was the motivation of the Republicans in office for instituting the "pay off" stipulation after the people voted yes on the referendum to allow them to vote?

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Decimius Magnus Ausonius

4 mesi fa

As I said ... of several minds. There is no clean answer here.

Likethumb_up
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

I respectfully disagree with your statement. The only reason they have done it is because they don't like what their citizens have told them they want. Why? because it is not in the GOP's best interest.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

What do you think? It's pretty obvious to us Floridians. There are already more registered Dems than Republicans in FL The GOP's only hope to keep up their dominance is to disenfranchise any voters they can. This year is crucial because, with the census we have a chance to end the gerrymandering that is keeping the GOP in power. You should just look at the shapes for some of our districts now.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

Stop_Shooting_Us

4 mesi fa

Expect the State to say they have no way of determining what the "felons" owed, so no vote for you! Catch-22.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

bookmanjb

4 mesi fa

Yeah, that's what I think. The wingnuts control the state bureaucracy. I won't be shocked to discover that suddenly everything slows down, just like the post service.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jimbo LW-FL

4 mesi fa

Exactly.
If I were a former felon, I would make three real efforts to learn the amount I might still owe, and if no one could/would come up with a figure, go ahead and registe and vote. Then dare anyone to challenge my status.
That should be a major court case right there, not enough time to settle it for this election, but for future elections like 2022 when we get to vote out the little hypocritical weasel Marco Rubio.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

Unfortunately, you are probably right because they are just figuring out how much can they wring from these people to keep them from voting. If no fines were levied at the conviction and sentencing with the person and his lawyer being advised at the time, there should be no fines due.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Stop_Shooting_Us

4 mesi fa

Governor DeKKKlantis and his sycophants will try to say the money is illegal because it's from a Socialist, Communist, Anti-Capitalist whatever they can come up with, no matter how deranged that sounded. I am at a loss to understand how the people of Florida could vote to expand the franchise and the legislator then sabotaged it. The organizers need to address the error in the language of the amendment.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

I suspect that it was a manufactured loophole as it was definitely NOT included as a qualifier in the amendment. I'm afraid that we didn't have time to get a way to redefine it. We should have added "No other requirement may be used to prevent this from being implemented" or some such.

We wouldn't have had this problem if we had had a trustworthy congress and court.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

blue lakes

4 mesi fa

Kudos Mike Bloomberg. Money well spent! Thank you,

Likethumb_up18

Linklink

Segnalaflag

evilann

4 mesi fa

good for you Mike.

Likethumb_up17

Linklink

Segnalaflag

sawasdee

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Reading these comments, I have learnt several things. (I am not a US citizen.)

That in the US - or at least in Florida - criminals are charged for their own prosecution.

That until they discharge this debt, and any fines they may have incurred, they are disenfranchised.
This despite an amendment carried by popular vote that felons be allowed to exercise their franchise.

That the state, on being asked by individual felons how much they need to pay to discharge that debt, is unable or unwilling to give an answer.

NO other western country or democracy requires this.

In some Scandinavian countries, fines are a percentage of income - a much fairer administration of justice.

My understanding - and please correct me if I am wrong - is that a conviction, if you are poor and unable to pay costs and fines, means lifelong disenfranchisement.

Whereas defrauding Medicare to the tune of 1.7bn dollars gets you elected Senator.
And no punishment at all.
But please don't pass out as an addict, and leave a needle around - that's an assault on the police and a felony - so you get prison, fines AND disenfranchisement.

Likethumb_up40
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Decimius Magnus Ausonius

4 mesi fa

Nope. You have it right. Welcome to Amerika.

Likethumb_up20
Linklink

Segnalaflag

J3000GT

4 mesi fa

More like Amerikkka.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

You have hit the nail on the head and it is more than likely that it is also true in all of the RED states (formerly the states that attempted to succeed in 1861). They are still fighting our Civil War and refuse to accept that they can't bring slavery back.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

A Real New Deal

4 mesi fa

The Democrats are as low as the Republicans. Going out and paying fines for convicted criminals so they vote Democrat. it is beyond depraved and disgusting.

However this raw attempt to seize the day will likely mostly fail.

The state of Florida is solidly controlled by the Republicans and they will ensure that the bureaucracy moves very s-l-ow-l-y in processing these pay off payments by Mad Mike Bloomberg and ensure that these criminals will not have their fines cleared in time to register to vote in November. In Florida I believe it is 30 days prior to election.

The Republicans will make sure for most of these outlaws that they will not be eligible to vote for the former Senator from DuPont Wall St. Joe Biden for President of the United States.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Het puttertje

4 mesi fa

Worried much, sweetie pie?

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

A Real New Deal

4 mesi fa

Not at all. Just tracking the mess.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Het puttertje

4 mesi fa

Mess? What mess? Oh, wait, 200,000 dead and counting...

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

A Real New Deal

4 mesi fa

The Republicrat mess they have made and running the nation down and heading towards catastrophe due to years of corruption and mismanagement by BOTH major political parties.

Get it sputtering?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

sawasdee

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

The state of Florida is solidly controlled by the Republicans and they will ensure that the bureaucracy moves very s-l-ow-l-y in processing these pay off payments by Mad Mike Bloomberg and ensure that these criminals will not have their fines cleared in time to register to vote in November. In Florida I believe it is 30 days prior to election.

O....K.

SO deliberate disenfranchisement - against the wishes of the electorate that voted to enfranchise felons - is AOK with you?

Hate to tell you, but that ain't democracy.
Democracy enforces the votes of its citizens - and if you disagree, you campaign to have the law changed.

Democracy does not pervert the wishes of the majority.

But the perversion of democratic process that seems to hold sway in today's US perverts those wishes daily.

From overseas, it's heartbreaking to watch.

Likethumb_up11

Linklink

Segnalaflag

A Real New Deal

4 mesi fa

I am not advocating what will happen just stating what I believe will transpire in the Sunshine state regarding this contentious issue.

I am simply an objective observer.

You would be wise to emulate my actions. A word to the wise . . .

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

sawasdee

4 mesi fa

You would be wise to emulate my actions. A word to the wise . . .

Are you, by any chance, attempting to patronise me?

I have read your comments on several threads, and you have a very strange idea of objective.

I feel I have a much greater claim to be so, as an international observer.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

A Real New Deal

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

"International observer".

Likely this means rootless globalist shill with no loyalty to anything or anyone except yourself and the 0.01% "globalist elite".

Is this true?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

J3000GT

4 mesi fa

Wow, patronizing, cliche, arrogant, someone who makes vast assumptions off nothing... you sound like such such a nice little troll who gets joy from insulting, berating and patronizing randos. Not to mention a bit of "both sides are the same" nonsense thrown in for good measure.

How nice you have a hobby that brings you such joy though!

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

A Real New Deal

4 mesi fa

Thanks for the Russian perspective. Or is it Chinese?

Why do you poorly paid people always use the same lines?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

sawasdee

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

I am an expat in Asia, who in partnership with locals used to have a business here. I moved here after an American asset stripper acquired the company for which I worked, asset stripped it, and put it into bankruptcy. Along with many others, I was then unemployed. (And owed money when the bankruptcy was declared.)

A Thai friend offered me the chance to work with them - and that's why I moved here.

Because of American corporate greed.

I hope you are being paid well for being a shill on comment sections...but you do not, unfortunately, seem bright enough (deducing from your comments) to have negotiated a reasonable salary.
And that's my assumption about you.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jimbo LW-FL

4 mesi fa

Ahh, I am getting a whiff of the sweet smell of racism.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

tigertime

4 mesi fa

Well done, gentlemen.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

blpeyton

4 mesi fa

Hot Damn!

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Donald

4 mesi fa

Knowing the corrupt Republican tactics in this state its probably a foregone conclusion these former felon renewed voters paper work will be challenged or delayed in getting their fines cleared and off the books .

Likethumb_up14

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LadyA1

4 mesi fa

Hopefully , they can make arrangements to help those that may need transportation to polls.

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

wtouche

4 mesi fa

This news brings a smile to my face.

Atta Boy Mike Bloomberg!

Likethumb_up36
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Watching_With_Amazement

4 mesi fa

What Mike should really be doing is bankrolling an initiative campaign to specify that custody, probation, and parole must be completed, but that voting may not be prohibited due to any outstanding financial obligations whatsoever.

The initiative drafters left a hole there that Republicans drove a bus through. But that can be fixed.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

St Jimmy 61

4 mesi fa

Yes, that is a worthwhile venture. But no time to get that done before Nov 3. This is a solid pragmatic approach to restore thousands of Floridians their basic democratic right to vote in time for the election.

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

tigertime

4 mesi fa

Yep, that's coming Amazement.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Watching_With_Amazement

4 mesi fa

Good - it needs to. I hope it gets 70% this time.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

OldLedger

4 mesi fa

Now, the Republicans will sue, saying that the ex-cons have to pay every dime from their own earnings.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

In the fray

4 mesi fa

And they will use other people's money to do so.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Austin Liberal

4 mesi fa

I found the foundation site and contributed. Not as much as i would have liked as I have kids struggling in a pandemic world. The site is floridarrc.com .
The foremost reason I did this is to get more Biden votes, but also because these people have paid for their crimes and deserve a say in their democracy.

Likethumb_up29

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Anna Pierdiluca

4 mesi fa

Thank you for the information.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Flypusher713

4 mesi fa

How are they going to get around that catch-22 of “sorry, we can’t find the record of how much you owe”?

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Watching_With_Amazement

4 mesi fa

That's a real problem. The dissents in the recent court case outlined it in gruesome detail. The state is simply not set up to provide accurate answers to these people, yet the state is happy to prosecute them if they vote and turn out to owe something later.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

I wonder if the GOP could be charged with obstruction of the right to vote if they can't come up with the amount of the fines due when asked? I should think so.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Watching_With_Amazement

4 mesi fa

The problem is that the drafters of the initiative said "All terms of sentence" without excepting the financial parts. The Republicans drove a bus right through that, but since sentencing often includes a fine, restitution, or court costs, they're arguably correct. The initiative needs to be redone to specifically exclude financial penalties from the restoration of voting rights.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

Hopefully they will but probably not to get on this ballot. Since I think they are already printed.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Watching_With_Amazement

4 mesi fa

No, it won't happen this time around because there wasn't time to fix the result of the court ruling. However, I've been told that version 2 is in the works, and if it explicitly rules out money as a factor in restoring voting rights, that should keep the legislature from screwing it up again.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

Thanks for letting me know that something is being done.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

richie1

4 mesi fa

Wonder how our Govenor DeJackAss will handle this?

Likethumb_up11

Linklink

Segnalaflag

blpeyton

4 mesi fa

Loud braying.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

fotini901

4 mesi fa

Sending in riot cops to protests.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

RobinCat99

4 mesi fa

Thank you Mr. Bloomberg and Mr. James! This needs to happen in every state, and you are greatly helping with the momentum!

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

RomanUrbanczyk

4 mesi fa

This is why Bloomberg is a billionaire and Donnie isn't.

Likethumb_up18

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Billy M Pullen

4 mesi fa

Thanks, Mike. Got more millions to help out McGrath in KY?

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Stickyd

4 mesi fa

So in summation, Bloomberg and Democrats are bribing these ex felons with paying off their debts with a promise to vote Democrat. Got it. Democrats are so freakin' corrupt.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

toki doki

4 mesi fa

Where was the quid pro quo stated? I couldn't find anything about a bribe. I did read that the targeted group is *more likely* to vote D, but not that they must in order to have their fines paid.

Likethumb_up13

Linklink

Segnalaflag

OnStarboardTack

4 mesi fa

waaaaaaaaah

call the waaaahmbulance

Another trumpian moron crying conservative tears

Likethumb_up12

Linklink

Segnalaflag

RomanUrbanczyk

4 mesi fa

Isn't it great. You get a SCOTUS who votes for big business and dems win Fl. Seems fair.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Watching_With_Amazement

4 mesi fa

Until next year's 13 member Supreme Court...

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

Merrifield

4 mesi fa

Thank you thank you to everyone involved in this effort. The voter suppression tactics used by Republicans have met the money and passion of Dems. Now make sure they all VOTE!

Likethumb_up16

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ReillyDiefenbach

4 mesi fa

What is up with these Cubans that they would vote for a monster like Trump?

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

RomanUrbanczyk

4 mesi fa

Bay of pigs and the influx of people from the PR.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MsWendyKroy

4 mesi fa

Cubans have always been conservative
and Republican. Anti-Communism and special immigration status....

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Watching_With_Amazement

4 mesi fa

It's mostly the old Castro refugees. They're dying off.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

JSinNYC

4 mesi fa

Once again Michael Bloomberg puts his money to good use.

As a lifelong NY'ER and liberal Democrat, I am forever grateful.

Likethumb_up26

Linklink

Segnalaflag

GrayStripe

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Since the republicans are out to play games by putting up hoops, I ask whether the pay the fines program *will move fast enough* to enable the ex-offenders to vote in accordance with the law that the voters passed.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

thoroughbred21

4 mesi fa

Great question. Currently a formal inquiry and response is in place, and the bureaucracy is bogging it down.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Watching_With_Amazement

4 mesi fa

The answer is probably no - the recent court case on the subject noted that 85,000 felons had applied to have their rights reinstated, and the state had processed, um, zero.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jude Dallas

4 mesi fa

GrayStripe wrote: *"I ask whether the pay the fines program will move fast enough to enable the ex-offenders to vote in accordance with the law that the voters passed."*

I think that a legal challenge to the GOP's stalling would win. Surely there is a logical legal argument that if the state can't say what amount is owed, the default can't be a made-up amount, so therefore must be no amount.

And if there were a challenge, and if it did win, then I think that the judge would allow the felons a voting extension.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

DCHannah

4 mesi fa

Why isn't he donating to this fund directly? Why is he raising funds for this when it could be the most important factor in turning Florida blue this cycle?

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

gsf01

4 mesi fa

He raised $16M which is different from the $100M he is placing in state (according to the article). The point is that he is getting it done and he is getting it done in a way that sounds pretty transparent and above board. I have no problem with that.

Likethumb_up20

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MacBear

4 mesi fa

And what have you given Hannah?

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

toki doki

4 mesi fa

I wondered the same thing, Hannah. Why bloomberg would need to solicit those finds and not donate it himself which seems like a quicker route to distribution.

Months ago on pod save America I heard an interview with someone from the FL Voting Rights Restoration and shortly donated ... but not $16m.

While I'm glad this disenfranchised group is getting back their right, I do wonder why bloomberg thought donations would be better.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

RomanUrbanczyk

4 mesi fa

It depends on the tax structure of the fund.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

Kayann2

4 mesi fa

Wow, great idea.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Dignity and Truth

4 mesi fa

Exciting development!
Florida's GOP voter suppression efforts might manage to work this year but change is coming. Glad to see this end run around Florida's spotty support for voter rights.

Likethumb_up16

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Freddiecat

4 mesi fa

Thank you LeBron & Mike! I just donated.

Likethumb_up18

Linklink

Segnalaflag

froxgirl

4 mesi fa

Best news this week, unless the state refuses to identify how much is owed by each person being denied the right to vote.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

OldSwayBackMule

4 mesi fa

The county courts should have that information available at the fines payment windows.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

adabyron

4 mesi fa

Yes part of what Rs are doing is the court is not responsible for telling them the amount of the fines. Up to individuals to find out.

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jude Dallas

4 mesi fa

froxgirl wrote: *"unless the state refuses to identify how much is owed by each person being denied the right to vote."*

I think that a legal challenge to that would win. Surely there is a logical legal argument that if the state can't say what amount is owed, the default can't be a made-up amount, so therefore must be no amount.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

OldSwayBackMule

4 mesi fa

The nickname "Sunshine State" is an infatuation of the mind.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

jcard59

4 mesi fa

Thank you, Bloomberg. Convicted felons are a huge, massive part of our base. They will riot and loot for us. In a close election, we must do everything to defeat Trump and his I love America supporters.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

froxgirl

4 mesi fa

Paul Manafort and Roger Stone are rioting and looting?

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

GrayStripe

4 mesi fa

manafort and stone are looting and rioting.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

J3000GT

4 mesi fa

Nice try troll. Yawn.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

"Trump and his I love America supporters"

I think what they really love is Confederate America. They don't love America since they don't believe that "All men (people) are created equal." They believe that "only white men are created equal". Most of the rioters and looters are the paid thugs and boogaloo trumpies.

The Dem protesters were guilty of allowing the other side to incite them to retaliate. Protesters by and large are peaceful. it isn't until under the cover of darkness that the miscreants act making it hard to identify unless they get caught on someone's store cam.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

resistancepersistencebecausemyconscienceinsistance

4 mesi fa

Thank you Mr. Bloomberg for trying to make inroads in the new discriminatory GOP poll tax.

Likethumb_up23

Linklink

Segnalaflag

TheResistance

4 mesi fa

Good news! My first thought when I heard about the fines ruling by the court was why doesn’t Bloomberg pay the fines with the $100M he’s committed to winning Florida. Well, glad to see others had the same thought and are making it happen!

Likethumb_up18

Linklink

Segnalaflag

froxgirl

4 mesi fa

I posted about it too! So glad we did!

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

JoeT1

4 mesi fa

the GOP even tried the stunt of making it hard to figure out what you owed, refusing to confirm the amounts for court fines, etc., because of poor records

Likethumb_up18

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jude Dallas

4 mesi fa

JoeT1 wrote: *"the GOP even tried the stunt of making it hard to figure out what you owed, refusing to confirm the amounts for court fines, etc., because of poor records."*

Surely there is a logical legal argument that if the state can't say what amount is owed, the default can't be a made-up amount, so therefore must be no amount.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

akimbo10

4 mesi fa

Have you met the Florida Supreme Court?

Likethumb_up11
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jude Dallas

4 mesi fa

I haven't met the Florida Supreme Court, thank god! If it was between meeting them in a dark alley and meeting an armed drug gang in a dark alley, I"m not too sure...

Florida justices rewrite rules to scrap high court's liberal legacy
https://www.floridabulldog.org/2020/06/florida-justices-rewrite-rules-to-scrap-high-courts-liberal-legacy/

UGH! It will take 50 years of Democratic government, everywhere, to bring the U.S. up to the bare minimum standard of decency in other civilized countries. If it can be done. The rot is everywhere. I don't mean just GOP rot, I mean the rot in the brains of millions of Americans everywhere. Trump has revealed them in all their ugly horror. The screaming mask refusers, QAnon, flatearthers, anti-vaxxers, and all the rotten detritus of slavery and a lost civil war.

Likethumb_up6

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Gene62

4 mesi fa

Felons for Biden!

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MsWendyKroy

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Wow! Manafort, Bannon, Stone and Flynn have endorsed Biden!? When did that happen?

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jimbo LW-FL

4 mesi fa

Ex-Felons Gene, ex Felons.
By the way, read the story, the effort does not require that those assisted vote Democratic.
Hey, 65% of us decided in 2018 to bring the Ex-felons fully back into the fold.
It is only the desperate and nakedly transparent efforts of racist Republicans that is making this counter effort necessary.
Have fun being on the wrong side of history.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

EAC in Southeast PA

4 mesi fa

Why is there no hyperlink to Bloomberg's fund in this article?

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Capriccio

4 mesi fa

He is making the donation to an already existing organization: the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition https://floridarrc.com/

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Tetsuo_Ironman

4 mesi fa

Where I live everyone gets to vote no matter if they are morons, criminals, demented or malicious narcissistic tv hosts. It's called democracy.

Likethumb_up18

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jude Dallas

4 mesi fa

This is smart, the kind of plan that a successful businessman like Bloomberg would think of.

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

froxgirl

4 mesi fa

I don't think he came up with it on his own. Many of us suggested it and would have done the same if we were 1% ers.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Flash_

4 mesi fa

And much more cost effective than what he spent per vote in his own campaign.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Robert K

4 mesi fa

I just hope there's enough time to get these ex-felons, who have now fully repaid their debt to Florida society, registered and organized to make a difference in the shady Sunshine State.

Likethumb_up18

Linklink

Segnalaflag

akimbo10

4 mesi fa

I think they are starting with those that are already registered:

> The money will go to fund a program organized by the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition to pay the fines, fees and restitution costs for former prisoners who are already registered to vote in Florida but barred by law from participating in the election because of those outstanding debts

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

They are registered, they just can't exercise their vote until those pesky fines (poll tax) are paid. The issue now is whether they can get the necessary information to resolve the issue in time.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ipolitics123

4 mesi fa

Seems kind of RACIST to limit this to "Black and Hispanic" felons. But Mikey's a Democrat, so racism is totes OK, right?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Tetsuo_Ironman

4 mesi fa

Try reading the article before commenting.

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

PleaseRemainCalm

4 mesi fa

Although you are clearly a noxious human being, I do wonder about the legality of this. The author should not have mentioned the racial aspect of this in such a glancing way without further explanation.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jude Dallas

4 mesi fa

I too wondered about only Blacks and Hispanics benefiting from Bloomberg's program, and I too wished that had been explained in the article. But then I reasoned that it may be because there is only so much money and time and so the ones most likely to vote Democrat are targeted. If you want to defeat the GOP and Trump, and you only have 45 days to do it, you have to apply speed, logic, and reasoning.

I think that LeBron James' program covers the whole issue and perhaps Bloomberg will throw his money and power that way, once this fight has been won.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MsWendyKroy

4 mesi fa

Because that’s a different fund.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

It's probably because the minorities are the ones who are having it the toughest time in this pandemic and the most needy.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Yin_Yang

4 mesi fa

It's a targeted action, in response to a GOP targeted action.

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lucy F. Keller

4 mesi fa

Well said and succinct.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Eric HH

4 mesi fa

I believe this qualifies as a BFD. Way to go Mike B.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

amused spectator

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

He saw the donations as a more cost-effective way of adding votes to the Democratic column than investing money to persuade voters who already have the right to vote, a Bloomberg memo said.

I just love how this guy and his team work and think! No politic mumbo jumbo trying to touch the hearts of people, just square (corporate?) thinking.

I LIKE MIKE

Likethumb_up16

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jude Dallas

4 mesi fa

You nailed it amused spectator, when you wrote: *"I just love how this guy and his team work and think! No politic mumbo jumbo trying to touch the hearts of people, just square (corporate?) thinking."*

Likethumb_up5

Linklink

Segnalaflag

somedayPPMBsomeday

4 mesi fa

Little in stature... great big in heart. So proud of you Mr. Bloomberg! Thank you.

Likethumb_up15

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Barbaraschlein

4 mesi fa

How do I contribute?

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

JustVote2020

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Go to https://floridarrc.com/
They are a 501c3. Donations are tax deductible under the Cares Act up to $300 for non itemizers and 100% for itemizers: https://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/new-rules-for-charitable-contribution-deductions-under-the-cares-act.html

This is a total moneyball approach, as this organization is paying fines of people who have registered, but can't pay fines. We need to act now though, as I believe there are only two more weeks to pay their fines.

On average I believe it will take around $500 to pay back fines for former felons, but every little bit helps.

Likethumb_up6
Linklink

Segnalaflag

froxgirl

4 mesi fa

link is broken

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Latina love

4 mesi fa

This is actually a great idea.

Likethumb_up14

Linklink

Segnalaflag

medicine man

4 mesi fa

Voter suppression can only work for so long. The Republicans are fighting a holding action.

Demographics are changing but the Republicans are promoting the same old tired policies (tax cuts and anti-abortion) that less people vote for every cycle. The GOP hold on Florida is losing its grip. Desantis and Scott are two perfect examples. I the Blue Wave of 2018 they both eked out tiny majorities Desantis about 30k votes out of 7 million and Scott a little over 10k (also two FL County election systems were breached by the Russian hackers).

The $15m Bloomberg fund will gain 32k new voters in 2020 and by the time Desantis is up for re-election in 2022 probably over 200k new former felons voters will be allowed to vote. The Democrats already have a majority of registered voters in Florida and it is getting larger every cycle.

The GOP will lose seats in the State House and Senate this cycle and may lose control of the State House for the first time in 20 years. Trump will lose Florida's 29 electoral votes in 2020 and have no path to victory - even with a packed Supreme Court.

GOP should give up on voter suppression strategies, voter fraud, and Geri-mandering voting districts, and start coming up with policies that make voters want to vote for them.

Likethumb_up63

Linklink

Segnalaflag

lenore connellee

4 mesi fa

That's like telling a student who spends lots of time writing the answer on their hand, that it would take less time to just study the material! Doesn't usually work!

Likethumb_up24

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jimbo LW-FL

4 mesi fa

And if your aunt had testicles, she would be your uncle.
And if pigs could fly, we would all carry umbrellas.

And if Republicans could ever get past their enduring racism...you get the idea.

They just don’t have it in them.
Like a masculine aunt or an aerobatic swine.

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Shirley Simon

4 mesi fa

Thank you, Mr. Bloomberg.
I sent my donation to the group last week.

Good on you!

Likethumb_up31

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Grabbin_P

4 mesi fa

I was wondering when someone rich would come in and just pay off the bogus court fees for thousands of people. Bloomberg is awesome.

Likethumb_up30

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Tipping Point

4 mesi fa

Agreed, but it should be noted that Bloomberg raised money. It (or, at least, most of it) didn't come out of his own pocket — which is even better.

Being so wealthy, however, does give him a greater ability to raise money.

Then, LeBron James' foundation joined the effort.

A big "thank you" to both of them!

Likethumb_up37

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Taxpayer100012

4 mesi fa

I just sent a donation to them after reading this article . Let us all contribute (each to his/her own extra cash).
We the People of USA can beat Voter Suppression & the RepubliKKKan party.

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

stewart541 Bolinger

4 mesi fa

How many lovely white Republican disbarred lawyers are convicted felons? The Florida Democrats could have such fun standing up for their freedom to vote and they won't. Democrats prefer to slink around wheedling the right to vote on behalf of the underclasses. Trump has given more convicted felons the right to vote than the Florida Democrats have.

Likethumb_up3

Linklink

Segnalaflag

medicine man

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Stewart541 ---That's so false it's almost hilarious!

Likethumb_up14
Linklink

Segnalaflag

chrissyskis

4 mesi fa

medicine man,
Pay the trolls no mind.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

medicine man

4 mesi fa

Things are heating up in St. Petersburg. Putin is getting really nervous.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Latina love

4 mesi fa

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

miamimom

4 mesi fa

There may be many, but they probably have no problem paying the court fees. It’s a poor person’s problem.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

ml6518

4 mesi fa

Thank you Mike for helping to ensure that the voters intent in passing the law restoring voting rights to felons is carried out. Only Republicans are afraid of voters because they no longer have a message that people want. As for satxusa, I live in a city with a Democratic governor and it is far better than many of the cities where you have a Republican legislature. I have traveled extensively throughout the US and by and large, it is the Republican areas that don't have hospitals and clinics, whose downtowns are boarded up, where the only store is WalMart. But you keep right on thinking that the large, Dem cities are places you don't want to be. Because the more you stay away, the happier we are. Vote BLUE up and down the ballot, people, because your life depends on it, as does mine.

Likethumb_up74

Linklink

Segnalaflag

cj277

4 mesi fa

If anyone is interested in making a donation, the groups website can be found here: https://floridarrc.com/

Likethumb_up16

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Taxpayer100012

4 mesi fa

I just donated $60 to them . Will donate every time I have extra cash .
Let us fight Voter Suppression in all its variations.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Leading Edge Boomer

4 mesi fa

FL is so FUBARd that, in many cases, they cannot or will not tell former felons the amount that they owe. A diabolical plot by Desantis to thwart voters.

Likethumb_up47

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jude Dallas

4 mesi fa

Leading Edge Boomer wrote: *"...in many cases [Florida] cannot or will not tell former felons the amount that they owe."*

Surely there is a logical legal argument that if the state can't say what amount is owed, the default can't be a made-up amount, but must be no amount.

Likethumb_up19

Linklink

Segnalaflag

seanjohn0724

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

There's definitely a legal argument and a district court judge entered an injunction because of this. Unfortunately, the 11th Circuit overturned the district court a couple of weeks ago in the same opinion denying the law was a poll tax.

The court basically said that "*the Due Process Clause does not require States to provide individual process to help citizens learn the facts necessary to comply with laws of general application" and that "Florida provides registered voters with adequate process before an individual determination of ineligibility. Before being removed from the voter registration system, voters are entitled to predeprivation notice and a hearing*."

Likethumb_up11

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Richard_Schumacher

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

In other words, "Just keep paying us until we tell you to stop." Jee-zus Christ.

Likethumb_up16

Linklink

Segnalaflag

ArcOfTheUniverse

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Oh, my God! I didn't read that part of the ruling. That is unbelievable!

Lagoa -- the very recent appointee whose among Trump's two finalists for the second stolen seat -- was among the majority on that opinion. The majority was composed of her, four other Trump appointees and a Bush appointee. Lagoa and another of the Trump appointees also refused to recuse themselves even though they were involved in this case at the state Supreme Court level.

Likethumb_up22
Linklink

Segnalaflag

Bethany Chance

4 mesi fa

It's not unbelievable ArcOfTheUniverse. Rick Scott took away convicted felons opportunities to get their voting rights back. It started by making them wait 5 years to even apply and then continued with him denying the majority of those who applied. Florida was considered to be a state where people who had paid their debt to society would, regardless, never regain their voting rights. https://www.orlandoweekly.com/Blogs/archives/2018/10/31/rick-scott-restored-the-voting-rights-of-twice-as-many-white-former-felons-as-black-felons

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

EmmRod

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

Wow these people are despicable. That's *exactly* what the Due Process clause is for, citizens wouldn't be subject to the whims of the state in matters of crime & punishment.

To these judges the state has no obligation to inform you of how to complete the terms of your sentence (since they made paying the fees obligatory).

Under this ruling the state can make someone's sentence a question mark, and that would be totally valid.

These people will turn this country into Iran's theocracy.

Likethumb_up24

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Bethany Chance

4 mesi fa

Surely, in a state the deliberately thwarts voters' will, and suppresses the vote, there will be no such thing as a default or a 'no amount'.

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

satxusa

4 mesi fa

A simple question, why would he assume criminals would reliably vote for Biden?

The question answers itself, and that's why our cities are hellholes if run by Democrats.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

smallfingersnobrain

4 mesi fa

you have a criminal elected president

Likethumb_up28

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Lynn P. Anderson

4 mesi fa

A simple question: Why would I assume that you, satxusa, are a virulently racist Trump supporter?

The question answers itself.

Likethumb_up24

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MacBear

4 mesi fa

Stop with the accusatory racist trope. You demean yourself and our party. Stick to the facts.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

J3000GT

4 mesi fa

Pretty sure they are sticking to facts.

Facts like Trump supporters are pretty much always at least somewhat racist. I have yet to come across any that aren't- which is why they love supporting a huge hateful racist like trump who surrounds himself with white supremacists like Stephen Miller and Bannon.

Did you forget trump started the birther movement and now is doing the same thing to Harris, among other rascist tactics?

Likethumb_up4

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MacBear

4 mesi fa

Not true and in this case with this commenter you have no basis to say it. If you want to accuse all Orange Nazi voters of racism, be my guest as a reverse racist. But then accept that you are perpetuating the same trope they are.

Likethumb_up1

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Grabbin_P

4 mesi fa

Simple question...why does Orange Man surround himself with criminals?

Likethumb_up18

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Visualizza Più Risposte

Wm. Groves

4 mesi fa

As usual a somewhat inflamatory article title. Missed chance to say defeats overt poll tax.

Likethumb_up13

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Mike Val from Aus

4 mesi fa

In the civilized outside world, fines & fees are a substitution for incarceration. If a felon is jailed & then duly released, then anywhere else in the world that I know of, his/her debt to society has been exacted and residual debt is then expunged.
Ex-felons, having fulfilled their debt to society should be free to vote regardless of the small minded vicious laws enacted by smaller minded legislators.

Likethumb_up21

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Jude Dallas

4 mesi fa

Mike Val from Aus made this point based on logic: *"In the civilized outside world, fines & fees are a substitution for incarceration. If a felon is jailed & then duly released, then anywhere else in the world that I know of, his/her debt to society has been exacted and residual debt is then expunged. Ex-felons, having fulfilled their debt to society should be free to vote regardless of the small minded vicious laws enacted by smaller minded legislators."*

The U.S. is such an ugly country because so much of its governance is not based on logic, it is based on pure power. Pure-power politics are the norm in the U.S. because its elections are controlled by vast amounts of money - in the billions. And money buys power. And power attracts the worst citizens there are in a county to run for an office that will give them that power - hence the GOP lying, cheating, suppressing, gerrymandering, and appealing to the worst human instinct: hatred of the "other".

Likethumb_up13

Linklink

Segnalaflag

seanjohn0724

4 mesi fa

Even more ridiculous, Florida actually makes convicted felons pay for the *court proceedings* that convicted them. They can't vote unless they pay these court fees.

Likethumb_up8

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Flash_

4 mesi fa

You would prefer to pay for others' crimes yourself?

Likethumb_up

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Kevin Skiles

4 mesi fa

They paid their debt to society. Doesn't Society hold their debt? So isn't it already paid for?

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MexicanBlackbird

4 mesi fa

I like Mike.

Likethumb_up44

Linklink

Segnalaflag

UncleBomber

4 mesi fa

Thanks, Mike & Friends!

It'll be interesting to see what the next law DeSantis and his minions pass to try to get around this to keep the vote suppressed.

Likethumb_up105

Linklink

Segnalaflag

MotownMom

4 mesi fa

Bloomberg, who has committed at least $100 million to electing Biden in the state (Florida)

That's great, but I wish there was a recognition that Florida, with DeathSantis as its governor, is going to have the most GOP-friendly decisions and mischief of pretty much any state. *Bush v Gore* anyone?

Giving to "get out the vote" programs in other flippable states might be more beneficial.

Likethumb_up7

Linklink

Segnalaflag

TheResistance

4 mesi fa

Are you kidding? It’s worth the risk as winning Florida the election is won and done.

Likethumb_up62

Linklink

Segnalaflag

SocioSam

4 mesi fa

I think Florida was going for Biden anyway, but this makes it more difficult to steal.

Likethumb_up27

Linklink

Segnalaflag

LONGAGO

4 mesi fa

Sure hope you are right, SociaSam, but things still seem really "red" down here!

Likethumb_up9

Linklink

Segnalaflag

SocioSam

4 mesi fa

I'm in a blue dot town (DeLand) in a red middle Florida county (Volusia). I keep watching the 538 numbers and if it is fair (see toomuchinternet's comment below), Biden will win.

Likethumb_up10

Linklink

Segnalaflag

toomuchinternet

4 mesi fa

In a fair election Florida would go for Biden. But this election is not going to be fair. The Dems have to campaign harder and smarter than they did in 2016.

Likethumb_up20

Linklink

Segnalaflag

jamesf1

4 mesi fa

Hard to steal from criminals.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Alter Ego

4 mesi fa

All eggs in one basket is a risky strategy... we need backstops.

And most analyses of the electoral map indicate Pennsylvania is far more important now than Florida. Basically, if Florida goes for Biden, then it's almost sure that Biden will end up with a very large winning margin in the electoral college.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

toomuchinternet

4 mesi fa

I think we can agree that election shenanigans are not going to be limited to Florida this time. Florida is an important state since Trump can't win without Florida.

Likethumb_up16
Linklink

Segnalaflag

I miss civility

4 mesi fa

thankfully, the thankfully, the Florida GOP operative who pushed George W into the White House,. Is working for Democrats this time around.

Likethumb_up2

Linklink

Segnalaflag

Vertigo

4 mesi fa

(Modificato)

And whatever law it is, it will be upheld by Trump’s new majority in the 11th Circuit and the Supreme Court, and Republicans’ theft of our democracy is successful and complete. Bravo to all who protest voted in 2016. Welcome to your new, progressive America.

Likethumb_up14